

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH

A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
(Incorporated November 27, 2002)
Volume 12, Number 2, May 2014

Wednesday, May 28th, 2014 Meeting

The Julia Ideson Building, Houston Public Library, first floor auditorium
500 McKinney Avenue

6:00 – 7:00 Reception
7:00 Program

PROGRAM:

“Houston’s Hermann Park: A Century of Community”
by

Barrie Scardino Bradley, author of her recently released book
Houston’s Hermann Park: A Century of Community

Free parking, with validation at the meeting, is available in the garage under the Jones Building accessed from Lamar Avenue. Free parking is also available on the nearby streets after 6:00 P.M.

All attendees need to enter the Julia Ideson Building from the main entrance across the plaza from the Central Library.

VISIT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM WEBSITE!
www.friendsofthetexasroom.org

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

The year 2014 marks many important anniversaries, both for our nation and for Houston. It is the two hundredth anniversary of the Treaty of Ghent which ended hostilities between the U. S. and England. It is the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of World War I.

In Houston it marks the one hundredth anniversary of the opening of the Ship Channel, the one hundredth anniversary of the death of George Hermann which resulted in Hermann Park, and the one hundred and tenth anniversary of the opening of the first Houston Public Library. In celebration of the latter three anniversaries, the library is mounting exhibits on all three topics this summer. The Friends of the Texas Room will present related programs to coincide with the exhibits.

On May 28 Barrie Scardino Bradley, author of *Houston's Hermann Park: A Century of Community*, will talk about the history of the park. Attendees will have the opportunity to view the exhibit during the reception prior to the program.

On August 2, in lieu of a speaker, the Friends will honor the five study clubs which organized the City Federation of Clubs for the purpose of persuading Andrew Carnegie to give the City of Houston \$50,000 to construct the city's first public library. Two of these clubs still exist: the Ladies' Reading Club and the Woman's Club. Their members will be our honored guests for a Saturday afternoon reception in the Ideson auditorium.

The reception also will celebrate the opening of a special exhibit of books, documents and artifacts relating to the five clubs and their accomplishments. Sponsored by the Friends, it will be entitled "Founding the Houston Public Library: Women's Clubs and Civic Activism at the Turn of the Twentieth Century". Betty Chapman and I are planning the exhibit with the help of the HMRC staff. I urge all of you to put Saturday, August 2 from 2:00 to 4:00 P. M. on your calendars for a delightful afternoon of iced tea, refreshments and nostalgia.

Finally, the library will mount an exhibit about the history of the Port of Houston which will be up through the fall. Our speaker at the October meeting will address issues relating to the port and to the Ship Channel.

I look forward to celebrating these milestones of Houston's history with all of you.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Knox Houghton

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11th, 2014, GENERAL MEETING

Dorothy Knox Houghton called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

The minutes of the October 28th general meeting were approved as mailed in the Dispatch. Frank Jones presented the Treasurer's Report. Dorothy Knox thanked Calanne and John Choate for the meeting's reception refreshments.

Jeff Bailey and Mark Susman have received a Gold Brick Award from Channel 8 for a presentation on our website.

Dorothy Knox introduced our speaker, Dr. Anne Chao, who gave a presentation on the history of the Asian community in Houston.

After the presentation, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Dissen

Recording Secretary

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

By Liz Sargent, Manager, HMRC



McKinney Entrance to the Julia Ideson Building, Photo by Joel Draut

John J. Herrera and the Mexican-American Family and Photograph Collection: Digitized

Last year HMRC received a Texas Cultures Online grant from the University of North Texas' Portal to Texas History. This grant digitized most of HMRC's John J. Herrera Collection and all of HMRC's Mexican-American Family and Photograph Collection. The digitized files were received back this fiscal year and HMRC is currently working on creating the image descriptions for each digitized file. The digitized material can be found at <http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/partners/HMRC/browse/>

2014 Membership Benefits

Photograph Reproductions

Each 2014 member of the Friends of the Texas Room is allowed up to five photograph reproductions at half-price this year. Image sizes available at half-price are:

5x7 print (\$12.50 normally costs \$6.25)

8x10 print (\$18.00 normally costs \$9.00)

11x14 print (\$25.00 normally costs \$12.50)

8x10 digital scan at 300 dpi (\$12.50 normally costs \$6.25).

Please note: Requests for the five half-price photograph reproductions need to be directed to me at Elizabeth.Sargent@houstontx.gov for tracking purposes and to ensure the Photo Lab processes the payment correctly.

Research Lock-ins | Preservation Consultation Days

HMRC staff will offer 2014 members of the Friends of the Texas Room:

2 research lock-ins offered on a Friday (Dates forthcoming for 2014)

2 preservation consultation days offered on a Friday (Dates forthcoming for 2014).

Volunteers

HMRC can use volunteers who want to help going through archival collections box by box to determine what is in them. HMRC can also use volunteers who want to help create lesson plans incorporating primary sources from HMRC's collections.

HMRC is also still seeking talented individuals to serve as tour guides and volunteer educators to ensure that all visitors to the HMRC and Julia Ideson Building have an enriched experience. We are looking for docents who are:

Passionate and Curious about Texas and Houston history.

Committed to engaging the visitors to the Houston Metropolitan Research Center and the Julia Ideson Building in a rewarding and educational experience.

Well-prepared for diverse questions and expressions of interest regarding the history of the Julia Ideson Building and HMRC's various collections.

Duties will include but are not limited to:

Walking tours of the Julia Ideson Building and grounds

Orientations to the Texas Room, Reading Room, and/or Exhibit Hall

Instruction on history topics

Guided informational visits to exhibits and installations

If any of these opportunities interest you, please contact Liz Sargent at elizabeth.sargent@houstontx.gov to discuss further.

Texas Room Hours

The Texas Room hours are:

Monday: 10:00 – 6:00

Tuesday: 10:00 – 6:00

Wednesday: 10:00 – 8:00

Thursday: 10:00 – 6:00

Saturday: 10:00 -5:00

Friday and Sunday: Closed

FTxR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Quarterly issues of the *Texas Room Dispatch*.

Quarterly meetings featuring outstanding speakers on local history.

Preservation consultation sessions with HMRC staff members on preserving family documents and memorabilia. Sessions are conducted twice a year on Fridays when the Texas Room is normally closed.

Research Lock-Ins twice a year on a Friday. HMRC staff members will provide one-on-one research consultation to FTxR members.

Five copies per year of digital scans from the HMRC photograph collection for half price.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

Please contact Jeff Lindemann, editor of *The Texas Room Dispatch* (lindemann@SBCglobal.net), with information about your volunteer service at the HMRC and about projects you are working on that utilize HMRC resources.

POLICIES

Policies of the Friends of the Texas Room

Relating to The Houston Metropolitan Research Center which includes the Collections of the Archives and Manuscripts Department, the Texas and Local History Department, and the Special Collections Department of the Houston Public Library

A. Contributions

From time to time, the Friends of the Texas Room will purchase and contribute to the Houston Metropolitan Research Center of the Houston Public Library items that will enrich and enhance the above-named collections and ensure their preservation.

All such contributions will be purchased by the Friends directly and then given to the Library with specific stipulations as to how such contributions are to be used by the Library to enhance and ensure the preservation of the HMRC collections.

The Friends will give no money directly to the Library.

The Friends will not buy expendable supplies for the Library.

The Friends will not fund Library personnel.

B. Relationship to Administration and Staff

The Friends of the Texas Room is not to be involved in the administrative or employee actions of the Center, except that the Friends can question policies which, in its opinion, negatively impact the ability of the Center to provide service to the public.

CULTURAL MATCHING GIFTS

Are you or your spouse working for or retired from a corporation which makes cultural matching grants or volunteer involvement awards if you give to or do volunteer work for a cultural institution?

Will your employer match your gifts to cultural institutions that qualify under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code?

The Friends of the Texas Room has such a qualification. Send your corporation's cultural matching funds form with your check for membership in FTR. If you volunteer your time as an officer of FTR or in the Texas Room or HMRC, keep track of your hours and turn them in to your corporation so that the FTR may obtain a grant from your corporation's program. This is "found money" for FTR and can be used towards making a difference to the Texas Room and HMRC.

FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM: WHO WE ARE

Mission: The Friends of the Texas Room seeks to support the collections of the Texas and Local History Department, the Archives and Manuscripts Department, and the Special Collections Department of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center of the Houston Public Library.

Board of Directors:

President: Dorothy Knox Houghton

Vice-President: Susan Teich

Secretary: Kathy Dissen

Treasurer: Frank Jones

Directors: Nancy Burch, Kathleen Colt, Cheri Fossler, Jeff Lindemann, and Charles Maynard

HOW TO CONTACT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM

Membership applications, dues, donations, and mail for Board Members should be sent to the following address:

Friends of the Texas Room
P. O. Box 27827
Houston, Texas 77227-7827

HOW TO CONTACT THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH

Submissions and comments for *The Texas Room Dispatch* should be emailed to the editor Jeff Lindemann at jeff.lindemann@hccs.edu or sent to his home address:

Jeff Lindemann
The Texas Room *Dispatch* Editor
3405 Roseland, Houston, Texas 77006

FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM
2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Membership Year: 1/1/2014 – 12/31/2014

Mail with dues to:

P.O. BOX 27827 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77227-7827

Or apply and pay with PAYPAL online at: www.friendsofthetexasroom.org

DATE: _____

Check applicable: _____ RENEWING APPLICATION _____ NEW APPLICATION

FIRST PERSON: _____ SECOND PERSON AT SAME ADDRESS (if applicable): _____

first name, middle, last name

first name, middle, last name

MAILING ADDRESS (include street or P.O.): _____

CITY/TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP +4: _____

TELEPHONE, FAX, EMAIL

FIRST PERSON:

SECOND PERSON (if different)

HOME: _____

HOME: _____

OFFICE: _____

OFFICE: _____

FAX: _____

FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (please check category)

_____ Benefactor \$500

_____ Patron \$250

_____ Sponsor \$100

_____ Donor \$50

_____ Family \$30

_____ Individual \$20

_____ Senior \$10

_____ Student \$10

NOTE: Friends of the Texas Room is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization operating under IRS Code 501(c) (3). Membership and additional contributions over and above membership are tax deductible to the extent of the law. Is your gift eligible as a “matching gift” from an employer or other entity? If so, please give the name and include the appropriate form.

Additional contribution: \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: (Membership plus contribution): \$ _____

VOLUNTEER INTERESTS: Please check below to volunteer for FTR activities or library services:

___ **COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER:** Be trained and increase your own knowledge about research techniques.

___ **NEWSLETTER:** Writing articles about materials in the collections or reporting on related activities.

___ **MEMBERSHIP:** Maintain up-to-date membership list and send out renewal notices.

___ **HOSPITALITY:** Meeting room preparations, greeting people, refreshments when needed, etc.

___ **PROGRAMS:** Help develop programs or special seminars or workshops.

___ **PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Developing posters, displays, news releases, handouts, etc.

___ **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

___ **OTHER:** _____