

# THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH

A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room  
Volume 9, Number 4, October 2011

*To All FTXR Members:*

*Watch your mailboxes for the following invitation  
from the Julia Ideson Library Preservation Partners:*

Reception

Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011

6:00 – 8:00 P. M.

Julia Ideson Library, 500 Mc Kinney Avenue

Celebrating the restoration of the Julia Ideson Building

7:00 P. M. presentation of the 2011 Julia Ideson Award to Steven R. Strom

for

*Houston Lost and Unbuilt  
and*

Honorable Mention to Wesley G. Phelps

for

“A Grassroots War on Poverty:

Community Action and Urban Politics in Houston,

1964-1976”

This event will take the place of our annual meeting originally scheduled for  
Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Museum of Printing History.

The October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting is cancelled.

\*\*\*\*\*

Volunteers are needed to serve as docents at the Julia Ideson Building during the  
following two receptions that will be hosted by the Julia Ideson Library  
Preservation Partners honoring donors to its \$32 million capital campaign for the  
expansion and restoration of the Ideson Building:

**Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 P. M. (reception for major donors)**

**Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 P. M. (open house for all donors)**

**Shifts will be for 45 minutes. A required “familiarization tour” for all volunteers wishing to participate will be scheduled the first week in November. There will be valet parking on November 9 and free parking in the Central Library’s garage on November 13. If you can help, please email Dorothy Knox Houghton at [Dorothy\\_Houghton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Dorothy_Houghton@sbcglobal.net) giving the date(s) and time(s) that you wish to be scheduled.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Volunteers are needed to help man the FTxR exhibit tables at two upcoming conferences:**

**The Houston History Association’s conference on Houston history, “Milestones and Arrivals: 175 Years of Coming to Houston”; Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 8:30 A. M. to 3:30 P. M.**

**and**

**The Texas State Genealogical Society Conference; Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 8:00 A. M. to 6:30 P. M.; and Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 A. M. to 3:30 P. M.**

**If you can help, please email Dorothy Knox Houghton at:  
[Dorothy\\_Houghton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Dorothy_Houghton@sbcglobal.net)**

**VISIT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM WEBSITE!  
[www.friendsofthetexasroom.org](http://www.friendsofthetexasroom.org)**

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## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*Dear Friends,*

We have much to celebrate! I hope that all of you will join us on November 17<sup>th</sup> for the reception in the restored Julia Ideson Building hosted by the Julia Ideson Library Preservation Partners. You will receive an invitation in the mail, but the details also are posted in this issue of the Dispatch. The Friends have played a major role in bringing about the building of the new archival wing and the restoration of the 1926 building. Now it is time for revelry!

Adding to the festivities on November 17<sup>th</sup> will be the presentation of the 2011 Julia Ideson Award to Steven R. Strom for his book, Houston Lost and Unbuilt, and of the honorable mention award to Wesley G. Phelps for his doctoral dissertation, "A Grassroots War on Poverty: Community Action and Urban Politics in Houston, 1964-1976." We are placing a brass plaque commemorating all of the winners of the Julia Ideson Award on a wall in the new Texas Room.

I am happy to report that we have given a beautiful life-size copy (35" x 50") of the 1867 Kosse and Scott map of Houston to the HMRC in honor of Kemo Curry. (Theodore Kosse was a civil engineer for the Houston and Texas Central Railroad.) An original copy of this map, owned by the HMRC, is in very bad condition. Our gift will now serve as the HMRC's working copy so that their original can be preserved. The original map from which our gift copy was made is for sale at Arader Galleries for \$75,000!

Once the opening festivities are over, the HMRC is hoping that the Friends will provide regularly scheduled docents to give tours of the Ideson Building. These docents will be trained by the HMRC staff. The HMRC staff continues to use our DVD in teacher inservice training.

When our organization was founded in the spring of 2003, there were no plans for the restoration of the Ideson Building, much less any thought of building the new wing. The future of the HMRC was not at all clear. The events that have transpired since then seem almost miraculous. Our organization has played an important part in bringing this about. Our membership should be very proud of its accomplishments and look forward to exciting and rewarding times ahead.

*Dorothy Knox Houghton,*

President

## **MINUTES OF THE July 25th, 2011, GENERAL MEETING**

The Friends of the Texas Room met at the Museum of Printing History, 1324 W. Clay St., on July 25, 2011. After a brief reception and refreshments, President Dorothy Knox Houghton called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. A motion was made, seconded and approved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 members' meeting.

Treasurer Cathy Fitch reported that the funds on hand, including the checking account, the savings account, and the 14 month CD total \$35,971.27. President Houghton encouraged those in the audience who are not members of the Friends of the Texas Room to obtain a membership form before leaving the Museum and join the organization.

President Houghton introduced third generation Houstonian and photojournalist J. R. Gonzalez, News Copy Editor at the *Houston Chronicle* and author of "Bayou City History Blog" at chron.com. Mr. Gonzalez's topic was entitled "Bayou City History – Exploring Houston's Past Through Photojournalism." His program included slides of familiar landmarks and citizens of the city of Houston as well as noted personalities who had visited the city. He successfully encouraged the audience to reminisce about their experiences at the pictured landmarks and recollections of some of Houston's eminent civic leaders. At the end of the presentation Mr. Gonzalez encouraged the audience to visit his display in the Print Museum featuring photos of local personality Marvin Zindler. Some of these photos will be auctioned with the proceeds benefiting Houston Arts and Media and the Print Museum.

Jeff Lindemann gave an update of the past programs addition to the web site: [friendsofthetexasroom.org](http://friendsofthetexasroom.org). The first such addition was the presentation by Betty Chapman at the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 General Meeting.

Julia Ideson Award Chairman Barbara Eaves announced that 8 entries consisting of two videos, one magazine, and five books had been received and were in the process of being reviewed by judges John Boles, Michael Botson, and Doris Glasser. The winner will be chosen by October 1<sup>st</sup> and the award presented at the October General Meeting. Mrs. Eaves reminded the audience that the criteria for the award included the requirement that research is done using the resources of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center and that it document local or Texas history or culture.

Bill Kellar, former Friends secretary, and member of the Houston Historical Association outlined the activities associated with the celebration of Houston's 175<sup>th</sup> birthday. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, experts on Houston will give presentations between 8:30 am and 3:30 p.m. focusing on the reasons settlers came to Houston. The session is entitled "Milestones and Arrivals." This history conference will take place at the University of

Houston Hilton Hotel and the fee is \$50.00. Organizations are encouraged to set up and staff booths. A “History Crawl” will take place at various venues throughout the city from August, 2011 – June, 2012.

Audrey Barrett Cook will speak September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at Lanier Middle School on Obedience Smith and preside over the dedication of a marker to Obedience Smith.

President Houghton announced that Liz Sargent, acting director of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center, is asking for volunteers to conduct tours of the Julia Ideson facility. Interested members can contact President Houghton for further information.

President Houghton reminded the audience that Friends of the Texas Room brochures and DVD’s were available.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00. PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Georganna A. Barnes*, Secretary

### **NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM**

By Liz Sargent, Acting Manager, HMRC

HMRC's Architectural Archives was successfully moved from its temporary offsite storage location into their new home on the third floor of the Julia Ideson Building. The drawings are now properly stored in either flat files or shelves specifically designed to handle rolled material. Here is a look inside the new Architectural Archives Storage Area:



Congratulations are in order to HMRC staff members Laney McAdow, Architectural Archivist, and Aaron Winslow, Electronic Services Librarian/Archivist, who are now Certified Archivists. Both passed the certification exam given by the Academy of Certified Archivists which participates in the definition and advancement of professional archival education, concepts, and issues. HMRC now has three Certified Archivists on staff.

### **Celebrate Houston's 175th Birthday**

Please visit <http://houston175.org> to learn how to participate in the "Houston 175: 1836 through Now" celebration. Several events are planned over the next few months including the Houston History Conference and the Exhibit Crawl on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

HMRC created the *From Draft Horse to NASA: 175 Years of Transportation in Houston* exhibit. The exhibit opened September 15, 2011 and runs through November 15, 2011 in the Central Library Art Gallery at 500 McKinney in Downtown Houston. **On October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 from 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm please visit the Central Library Art Gallery for a meet and greet with Exhibit Curator Tim Ronk and other HMRC staff. Light refreshments will be served.**

### **Julia Ideson Building Docents**

The HMRC is 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 and its collections
- Instruction on history topics
- Guided informational visits to exhibits and installations
- Assistance at other Special Collections Library locations, as needed

If this sounds like something that interests you, please contact Liz Sargent at [elizabeth.sargent@houstontx.gov](mailto:elizabeth.sargent@houstontx.gov) to discuss further.



Sneak peak of the second floor -- Julia Ideson Building

### **FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO MARKET DVD**

Now that the documentary “In Search of Houston’s History” is finished, the Friends of the Texas Room is seeking volunteers to help market the film to prospective purchasers such as schools, colleges, universities, and museums. Volunteers should contact President Dorothy Knox Houghton at her email address:

[Dorothy\\_Houghton@SBCglobal.net](mailto:Dorothy_Houghton@SBCglobal.net).

### **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. We like to hear what our Friends are doing!

### **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: Nancy Burch

Secretary: Georganna Barnes

Treasurer: Cathy Fitch

Directors: Mary Jo Coselli, Frances Heyne, Charles Maynard, and Susan Teich

**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@hccs.edu](mailto:jeff.lindemann@hccs.edu) or sent to his home address:

Jeff Lindemann (713-524-3988)

*The Texas Room Dispatch* Editor

3405 Roseland, Houston, Texas 77006

**FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM**

**2011 Membership Application**

Membership Year: January 1 – December 31

RETURN TO: P.O. BOX 27827 \* HOUSTON, TEXAS 77227-7827

**FIRST PERSON: SECOND PERSON AT SAME ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *first name middle name last name first name middle name last name*

Mailing Address (include street or P.O.): \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP +4: \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE, FAX, OR EMAIL**

First Person 2nd 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

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: (Membership plus contribution): \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**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.

**VOLUNTEER INTERESTS**

Please check below if you would like 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.

\_\_ Telephone/E-Mail Committee: Contact for meeting cancellations, unscheduled events, or breaking news.

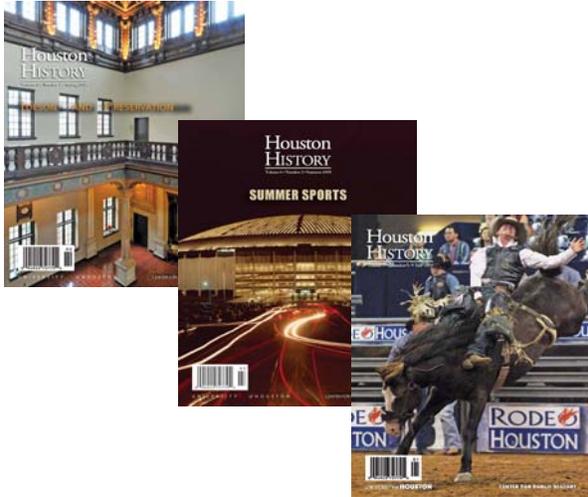
\_\_ Hospitality: Meeting room preparations, greeting people, refreshments when needed, etc.

\_\_ Programs: Help develop programs or special seminars or workshops.

\_\_ Public Relations: Developing posters, displays, news releases, handouts, etc.

\_\_ Special Projects

\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



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