

## **THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH**

A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room  
Volume No.3, No. 1, February 2005

### **SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Saturday, April 23, 2005 \* 10:00 a.m.-Noon  
Museum of Printing History  
1324 West Clay

The Museum of Printing History is located on West Clay Street between Waugh Drive and Montrose, one block south of West Dallas.

Free parking is available in the lot across the street or in the small lot on the left, adjacent to the Museum building.

**Our speaker will be Barry L. Whitehead, Architect with Prozign Architects.** He will discuss the exciting new plans for renovation of the Julia Ideson Building.

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS: UPCOMING FTR MEETINGS**

**Meetings are set for different days and time throughout the year to make it convenient for as many people as possible to attend at least one meeting.**

Saturday, April 23, 2005, 10 a.m.-Noon, Museum of Printing History

Monday, July 18, 2005, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Museum of Printing History

Saturday, October 15, 2005, 10 a.m.-Noon, Museum of Printing History

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## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Friends:

The winter newsletter is a little late for several reasons. The Museum of Printing History is becoming so popular for meetings of organizations such as ours that we were unable to find a date in January when they could accommodate us. Then we had to coordinate the date with the speaker. Finally, our board was planning a retreat in late January on which we wanted to report in this newsletter.

Not having circulated the minutes from the October meeting in the newsletter, we could not approve them at the February 1 meeting. Therefore, the minutes from the October 2004 meeting and from the February 2005 meeting both will appear in the April newsletter so that we can approve both at the April membership meeting. We appreciate your patience.

It is my privilege and great pleasure to report that Mayor White declared Saturday, February 5, 2005 to be Betty Chapman Day in Houston. The mayor honored the secretary of the Friends for her wonderful book on the history of the Houston Public Library and for her role in writing the text of the official Texas Historical Marker for the library, which was unveiled that day. This marker replaces an earlier one that had disappeared. Betty also was honored for her many hours of volunteer service to the library, which include her tireless efforts on behalf of the Friends of the Texas Room. Congratulations on many jobs well done, Betty!

Undoubtedly you have read in the news media that Barbara Gubbin, Director of the Houston Public Library System, resigned to become Director of the Jacksonville (Florida) Public Library System effective December 31, 2004. Toni Lambert, Deputy Director of Library Operations, is now Acting Director of the Houston Public Library until a new director is chosen.

On Saturday, January 29, 2005, your board held a retreat to plan for the next two years. Now that our organization is well established, we need to broaden our involvement and raise our profile in the community. To that end we decided to hold monthly board meetings, and we established several working committees:

Communications \* Membership  
Programs \* By-laws  
Development

The **Communications Committee** will coordinate the newsletter, website, and general publicity. Among the goals for the **Programs Committee** will be an annual symposium with a call for papers and possibly a lecture series. The **By-laws Committee** will revise and refine our by-laws. A **Development Committee** will be needed as we expand our activities.

Most of all, we need you, our members, to become involved by volunteering to serve on these committees. Please let us hear from you!

Our speaker at the February 1 meeting was Dr. Joseph A. Pratt, editor of the Houston Review of History and Culture, which originated at the HMRC but now is published at the University of Houston. Dr. Pratt gave an inspiring talk and encouraged the amateur historians among us to send him articles on subjects relating to Houston history. He is talking with our board about how we might work more closely together in the future.

We look forward to the active participation of all our members in the next two years.

Dorothy Knox Houghton

## **CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY**

**Friends of the Texas Room Policy for Contributions 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**

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.

## **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 IRS

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.

### **WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING**

Please continue to contact Sandra Lord, editor of the Texas Room Dispatch ([sandraslord@aol.com](mailto:sandraslord@aol.com)), with information about your volunteer service at the HMRC and about projects you are working on that utilize the resources of the HMRC

### **Projects & Publications Using HMRC Resources.**

*Ben E. Salisbury* is working on two projects: a detailed comparison between the Republic of Texas, United States of America, and State of Louisiana (1812) constitutions; and "Flags Are Important," a critical review of the national flags of the Republic of Texas. When he can, Mr. Salisbury stops "at Jones Creek on Highway 36, and visits Stephen F. Austin's grave, clearing off twigs and leaves from the tomb."

### **DUES REMINDER**

Our Membership Year runs from January 1 - December 31. Please fill in the membership form at the end of this Newsletter and mail it with your check to P. O. Box 27827, Houston, TX 77227-7827. Please make your check payable to "Friends of the Texas Room." If you have friends who might be interested in membership, please submit their names and addresses along with your check and we will send them information. If you have email, please include it. This saves us mailing costs.

### **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 – Barrie Scardino  
Secretary - Betty Chapman  
Treasurer – George Werner  
Parliamentarian – Nancy T. Burch

Directors: Paul Homeyer, Sims McCutcheon, Anne H. Sloan, Carol Weaver

**HOW TO CONTACT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM**

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

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 sent to the Texas Room Dispatch Editor at the address below.

Sandra Lord  
Texas Room Dispatch Editor  
P. O. Box 230183  
Houston, Texas 77223-0183  
(713) 222-9255 \* Fax: (713) 921-1510  
Email: SandraSLord@aol.com

**JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM**

Please spread the word and help us find new members. If you have access to a list of likely members, which you can share with us, we would appreciate it. The Membership Application below can be emailed to your prospects or photocopied and faxed or mailed to prospective members.

**FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM**  
**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/maiden      last name      first name      middle/maiden      last name*

*Mailing Address (Street or P.O.)*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*City/Town*

*State*

*ZIP +4*

**Telephone - Fax - E-Mail**

First Person

2<sup>nd</sup> Person (If Different)

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (please circle)**

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|                         |       |                       |      |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------------|------|
| Individual              | \$20  | Family *              | \$30 |
| Individual Senior (60+) | \$10  | Senior Family (60+) * | \$15 |
| Student *               | \$10  | Name of School        |      |
| Attending               | _____ |                       |      |

\* Family denotes two people at same address.

\* Student must give name of school attending.

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**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.**

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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.
- Website manager: Design and maintain an official site for the Friends of the Texas Room.
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_