

**THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH**  
A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room  
Volume 8, Number 1, January 2010

**Monday, January 25th Meeting**  
**6:30 Reception**  
**7:00 Program**

**PROGRAM:**  
**Dr. William Kellar**  
**Sixty Years of Doctoring in Houston:**  
**A Brief History of the Kelsey-Seybold Clinic**

**Honoring**  
**Dr. Mavis P. Kelsey and Dr. John Kelsey**

**MUSEUM OF PRINTING HISTORY**

**1324 W. CLAY**

The Museum of Printing History is located at 1324 W. 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.

**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,

December 14, 2009 was a day of great satisfaction and celebration for the Friends as the ribbon was cut for the new archival wing of the Julia Ideson Building. Your board members were invited to serve as hosts for the occasion and as guides to the areas of the new wing which were open to the public. After the ceremony our DVD ran continuously as guests strolled through the new building.

The FtxR volunteers who completed the inventory of the Texas Room books received many compliments following the ribbon cutting ceremony. Our special thanks and gratitude are extended to Betty Chapman, Anne Sloan, Sims McCutchan, and Alice Conlon for a challenging job well done.

The four atlas stands which we are giving to the new Texas Room should be there about the time that the HMRC reopens for business.

I am pleased to report that Dick Dickerson, one of the judges for the 2008 Julia Ideson Award, has agreed to chair the Julia Ideson Award Committee for 2010. It is now time to start thinking about potential nominees who have produced scholarly works during the past five years using resources in the HMRC for substantial portions of their research. We welcome your nominees.

At our January meeting we will honor one of our charter members, Dr. Mavis P. Kelsey, and his brother, Dr. John R. Kelsey, Jr., founders of the Kelsey-Seybold Clinic. Our speaker, Bill Kellar, who also happens to be secretary of the Friends, will talk about his book on the history of the Kelsey-Seybold Clinic. We look forward to greeting the Drs. Kelsey and their families at the reception prior to the program. Please make every effort to attend this very special program.

Dorothy Knox Houghton

### **REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Don't miss out! The Friends of the Texas Room is an active organization. The Friends' hour-long documentary, *In Search of Houston's History*, has recently appeared on television and is now for sale, the second annual Julia Ideson Award was given at our meeting on October 27th, and we have enjoyed wonderful speakers at our meetings. Your support has made all of this possible. Membership reminders were mailed out in December for 2010. Membership forms are also attached to this edition of *The Dispatch* and are available on our website. If you have not yet mailed in your dues, be sure to bring them to our January 2010 meeting.

## **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup> , 2009, GENERAL MEETING**

The Friends of the Texas Room met at the Carriage House of the Clayton Genealogy Library Center for Genealogical Research, 5300 Caroline St., on Tuesday October 27, 2009. Following a reception and refreshments President Dorothy Knox Houghton called the meeting to order at 6:40 P.M. President Houghton requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes since they had been emailed in advance. A motion was made and seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the emailed Minutes of the July 27, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer Cathy Fitch reported a balance of \$740.26 in the checking account, \$11,166.32 in the savings account, and \$20,000 in a CD for a Total Funds of \$31,906.58.

Dorothy Knox Houghton announced that the Friends of the Texas Room has provided \$5000.00 to match a 2009 TexTreasures Grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to digitize another set of interviews in the HMRC Oral History project. Houghton then introduced Ms. Kemo Curry, Director of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center, who provided an update on the construction of the new wing. Curry stated the work was proceeding very well and talked about some of the features in the New Wing. She also suggested some ideas on how the Friends of the Texas Room could participate in furnishing or decorating the new facility. President Houghton thanked Curry and stated that the Board would take her suggestions under advisement.

Following this, President Houghton presented the 2009 Julia Ideson Award to Dr. Michael Botson for his book, *Labor, Civil Rights, and the Hughes Tool Company*. Dr. Botson spoke about the importance of the collections in the HMRC/Texas Room and their significance for the people of Houston. President Houghton then introduced Michael Vance who received the 2009 Julia Ideson Award Honorable Mention for his historical television program, *Postcards from Texas*. Mr. Vance spoke about his research experience in the HMRC/Texas Room from his school days until the present.

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

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Kellar, Secretary

## **NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM**

By Kemo Curry, Manager, HMRC

We hope you were able to join us on December 14, 2009, at the ceremonial ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new archival wing of the Julia Ideson Building. A big thank you goes out to the Friends of the Texas Room for serving as hosts at this event. Attendees received tours of the outdoor reading room, the high-density shelving area, the rare books room, and the research/reference room. Preparations are underway to move HMRC's archival and book collections to the new storage wing shortly. Rest assured that staff is hard at work to make sure the collections are moved properly and that upon our re-opening in mid-Spring 2010, we can serve you better.

The [Houston Public Library Digital Archives](#) site is continually expanding its holdings. Please keep in mind that it is a work in progress, but recent additions might make the site useful to your research needs. Books including *George Hunter Bringham Field Notes*, *Houston Town Company Book of Sales*, *The Lone Star: A Tale of Texas, Founded upon Incidents in the History of Texas*, and *The Red Book of Houston: A Compendium of Social, Professional, Religious, Educational and Industrial Interest of Houston's Colored Population* are available through the [Houston Public Library Digital Archives](#) as are interviews that were part of the Houston Oral History Project.

[Houston City Directories](#) for the following years are now available through the [Houston Public Library Digital Archives](#):

1866; 1867-8; 1870-71; 1873; 1877-78; 1879-80; 1880-81; 1882-83; 1884-85; 1886-87; 1887-88; 1889-90; 1890-91; 1892-93; 1894-95; 1895-96; 1897-98; 1899; 1900-01; 1902-03; 1903-04; 1905-06; 1907; 1908-09; 1910-11; 1911-12; 1913; 1915; 1917; 1918; 1919; 1920-21; and 1922

Please Note:

If you require information from Houston City Directories from 1866-1922, please refer to the [Houston City Directories section](#) of the Houston Public Library Digital Archives.

If you require information from Houston City Directories after 1922, please submit reference requests via the [HPL Email Reference Form](#).

## **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 – William Kellar

Treasurer – Cathy Fitch

Directors: Carol Weaver, Mary Jo Coselli, Sharon Dies, 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

*The Texas Room Dispatch* Editor

3405 Roseland

Houston, Texas 77006

**FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM**

**2010 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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