

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH
A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
Volume 6, Number 4, October 2008

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME AND LOCATION
FOR THE OCTOBER 27TH MEETING**

October 27th MEETING
5:30 Reception
6:00 Program

PROGRAM:
**“EXPANDING THE STORY OF HOUSTON
FOR A 21ST CENTURY AUDIENCE ”**
SPEAKER: DR. JESUS FRANCISCO DE LA TEJA,
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT OF THE
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
AND
FIRST TEXAS STATE HISTORIAN
APPOINTED BY GOV. RICK PERRY**

PLUS
FIRST PRESENTATION OF THE JULIA IDESON AWARD

LOCATION: LOOSCAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The **Looscan Public Library** is located at 2510 Willowick Rd. close to the intersection of Wesleyan and Westheimer (Wesleyan becomes Willowick at the Westheimer intersection). Free parking is available in the library's parking lot and extra parking is available in the nearby Central Marker parking lot.

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

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

Approximately one hundred and fifty people attended the preview party for the Friends' new documentary, "In Search of Houston's History," on September 30 at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. The program was very well received, and everyone seemed to have a great time.

I particularly want to thank Jim Bailey, who produced the documentary without personal compensation, and his production team, Mark Susman and Mike Snow, who donated the time required for extra photography sessions. I also want to thank Dr. Peter Marzio and Liz Kanistanaux at the Museum for their generosity.

We would appreciate your help in spreading the word about the Channel Eight broadcasts of the documentary on Saturday, October 18 at 7:00 P. M. and Monday, October 20 at 10:00 pm. We are working with the Library and HISD to encourage the students and their parents to watch the program.

The Friends are very pleased to have partnered with the Houston Public Library Foundation to apply for a Texas Treasures grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The Friends' contribution to this effort was a partial match of \$5,000. The grant will be used to preserve and provide digital access to the HMRC's collection of oral history recordings.

We are hoping for a large turn out at the annual meeting on Monday, October 27, when we will vote on the new board for 2009-2010. To accommodate a larger than usual crowd, we will meet at the Looscan Library, 2510 Willowick between Westheimer and San Felipe. Special refreshments will be served thanks to generous donations from Friends member, Vernon Gillette, and Central Market. Please note that because the library closes at 8:00 P. M., we are beginning the meeting at 5:30 P. M. Extra parking can be found in the Central Market lot at the corner of Westheimer and Wesleyan (Willowick changes name to Wesleyan at that intersection).

Our speaker, Dr. Jesus Francisco de la Teja, is the immediate past president of the Texas State Historical Association and was appointed by Gov. Perry to be the first Texas State Historian.

A special highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the first Julia Ideson

Award for a project for which a significant amount of the research was done in the HMRC.

Be sure to watch the documentary on Channel Eight! I look forward to seeing you on October 27th.

Dorothy Knox Houghton

REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Don't miss out! The year 2008 will bring the Friends' hour-long documentary to public television, the first annual Julia Ideson Award in October, and wonderful speakers at our meetings. Your support has made all of this possible. We must hear from you soon, or we will have to drop your name from our mailing list. Membership forms are attached to this edition of *The Dispatch* and are available on our website.

DR. JESUS FRANCISCO DE LA TEJA TO SPEAK AT OCTOBER 27TH MEETING

The speaker for our October 27th meeting is Dr. Jesus Francisco de la Teja who will be speaking on the topic "Expanding the Story of Houston for a 21st Century Audience." Dr. de la Teja is the Immediate Past President of the Texas State Historical Association. He was recently appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to be the first Texas State Historian.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 27TH, 2008, GENERAL MEETING

The Friends of the Texas Room met at the Museum of Printing History, 1324 W. Clay St., on July 28, 2008, after a brief reception and refreshments. President Dorothy Knox Houghton introduced the speaker, Kate Kirkland, who gave an informative presentation entitled, "The Hogg Family and Philanthropy in Houston."

Following Kate Kirkland's presentation, President Dorothy Knox Houghton moved that the Minutes of the April 28, 2008 meeting be approved as published in the July "Dispatch." Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer Cathy Fitch reported that there was a balance of \$24, 471.15 in the checking account and \$10,470.50 in the savings account for a total of \$34,941.65 (copy attached). Cathy Fitch also reported that the final payment for the documentary had been made for a total cost of \$25,197.32 and that it had been covered by donated funds raised for the project. Therefore, it had not been

necessary to use any of the \$4,500.00 of unrestricted funds authorized by a vote of the membership. Fitch also stated that the Periodical Report—Nonprofit Corporation had been filed with the Texas Secretary of State on July 8, 2008, and a letter of acknowledgement had been received.

Dorothy Knox Houghton reported that the Documentary had been shown at Channel 8 where it was viewed with great enthusiasm. Plans called for it to be broadcast in late September or early October. Houghton also noted that Jim Bailey and Nancy Burch donated their time to work on the film. Houghton also announced that there would be a VIP preview for Friends of the Texas Room members in September either at the MFAH or the Rice Media Center.

Vice President, Sims McCutchan, reported that 14 entries had been submitted for the first Julia Ideson Award to be presented at the annual meeting in October.

The following announcements were made: Bill Kellar announced that copies of the latest *Houston History* Magazine were for sale in the lobby; Mike Vance talked briefly about the forthcoming Houston History television show he is producing for Channel 55; and Barbara Eaves announced that the date for the next San Jacinto Symposium had been set for April 18, 2009.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
William Kellar

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

By Kemo Curry, Manager, HMRC

I am pleased to report that several important milestones for HMRC have been achieved in the past quarter.

First and most exciting of all is that HMRC is now fully staffed! Please join me in welcoming aboard Liz Sargent, Collection Development Librarian, and Laney McAdow, Architectural Drawings Archivist.

The staff reviewed and approved of the 95% Construction Drawings. Folks, I am here to tell you that we are in for a treat and a feast for the eyes with the upcoming addition to the Julia Ideson Building.

Sixty-five percent completion of the Texas Room book collection inventory has been achieved. HMRC staff is contributing to the effort and this project will soon be complete.

We have gained two new volunteers – one is transcribing oral histories and the other is mining our Houston Press collection for a photo exhibit featuring crime scene photos made by Marvin Zindler in the early 1950s.

There is a small but fun exhibit in the Venus de Milo hallway (west loggia). If you have the opportunity, take a look at *Get Out the Vote*.

Finally, HMRC received a fine donation from the West University Historical Society which is now no longer active. The materials concern the history of West University, including houses in the 1920s and oral histories of early residents.

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.

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. 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 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 – Sims McCutchan

Secretary – William Kellar

Treasurer – Cathy Fitch

Directors: Nancy Burch, Susan Keeton, Caro Walker, and Jim Parsons

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 or sent to his home address:

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

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 on the next page can be emailed to your prospects or photocopied and faxed or mailed to prospective members.

FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM

2009 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: _____