

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH

A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
(Incorporated November 27th, 2002)
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VISIT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM WEBSITE
www.friendsofthetexasroom.org

2021 MEETINGS ANNOUNCEMENT

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the FTxR Officers and Board of Directors have decided to conduct our quarterly Monday meetings virtually at 7:00 pm using an online platform. If there is any change in this response, we will notify you.

As always, we will continue to present some of Houston's leading historians who will speak on their latest research documenting Houston's history.

Kimber Fountain to Speak on July 26th Meeting.

Kimber Fountain is the speaker for our July 26th, 2021, meeting at 7:00 pm. The title of her presentation is "The Maceo Family and the 'Free State of Galveston.'"



About the Speaker . . .

A native of the Texas Gulf Coast and longtime resident of Galveston Island, Kimber Fountain has previously published two other books on the city's rich history: *Galveston Seawall Chronicles* and *Galveston's Red Light District: A History of the Line*. She also serves as chair of the Arts & Historic Preservation Advisory Board to Galveston's City Council and is occasionally seen on stage at the Island East-End Theatre Company.

Kimber Fountain

Link for July 26th Meeting

Members may join the July 26th meeting by clicking on the following URL:

<http://bit.ly/FTXR-Kimber7-26>

INSIDE THIS EDITION OF THE *TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH*

Tribute to Dorothy Johnson (1930 – 2021), Long-Time FTxR Board Member
Minutes of the April 2021 Meeting
Remaining 2021 FTxR Meetings
“News from the Texas Room” by HMRC Manager Laney Chavez
Friends of the Texas Room Policies
Cultural Matching Gifts
Friends of the Texas Room: Who We Are
How to Contact Friends of the Texas Room
How to Contact the *Texas Room Dispatch*
Membership Application Form
2021 Julia Ideson Award Application Form
Previous Recipients of the Julia Ideson Award

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY JOHNSON (1930 – 2021)

Dorothy Johnson, long-time Friends of the Texas Room member, passed away on June 24, 2021, in Houston. She was a charter member of FTxR and served as the first



membership chair. Dorothy supported numerous Houston-area organizations and freely volunteered her time and expertise. As noted in her obituary, she was a member of the mailing committee for the Museum of Fine Arts – Houston, a member of Clayton Library Friends, and a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum. She also spent many hours taking classes at The Women's Institute, where she served as a Board member. She also devoted time to genealogy projects. In addition, Dorothy volunteered at various Houston companies for which FTxR received matching contributions. Here is the link to her obituary in the *Houston Chronicle*.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/houstonchronicle/name/dorothy-johnson-obituary?pid=199339490>

Memorials may be made to The Women's Institute, 2202 Avalon Place, Houston 77019; Friends of the Texas Room, P. O. Box 27827, Houston, 77227-7827; and St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 1656 Blalock, Houston, TX 77080.

MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 2020 MEETING

After calling the meeting to order at 7:00, President Mister McKinney welcomed members and guests.

Next, Mister McKinney introduced the speaker for the July 2021 meeting. Mister McKinney noted that Justice Wise traced his ancestry back to the Republic of Texas in

1836. Born and raised in Houston, he attended Texas A&M University where he competed on the intercollegiate rodeo team. After attending law school at the University of Houston, he practiced law for eight years before taking the bench as Judge of the 152nd and 334th District Courts. Mister McKinney also noted Justice Wise's topic for the evening: "An Evening with Justice Ken Wise and Texas History."

Justice Wise began his presentation by saying he has studied Texas history since his youth. Wise's tremendous passion for the stories and values that built Texas was evident. Wise mentioned that he enjoys reading and writing about Texas history and has published scholarly articles in several different journals. A popular speaker on various Texas history topics, Justice Wise noted that his podcast *Wise About Texas* exists to preserve and promote Texas history.

After moderating questions for Justice Wise, Mister McKinney announced the speaker for the July 26, 2021, meeting, Kimber Fountain who will be speaking on "The Maceo Family and the 'Free State of Galveston.'" Mister McKinney next concluded the meeting at 8:00.

REMAINING 2021 FTxR MEETING AND SPEAKER

The remaining Monday evening general meeting for 2021 is October 25th. You will be provided a URL in advance for each of the year's meetings. At this meeting, FTxR members will vote on a slate of officers.



Monday, October 27th, 2021

Speaker: Sandra Lord

Topic: "The Ghosts of Market Square"

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

By Emily Scott, Lead Archivist and Assistant Manager

The Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC) has a few staff farewells and



greetings. Laney Chavez, who served as Manager for the past five years, has moved to the Harris County Archives. We wish her well! Additionally, Alexandra Gazzolo, our Programming Coordinator, and Matthew Richardson, our Photo Archives Supervisor, have both left HMRC for other endeavors. Jennifer Southerland has recently joined us as our new Programming Coordinator and we're excited by all

her new ideas and enthusiasm! Another recent addition to our staff is Ginger Berni, who

previously worked at The Heritage Society and was the featured speaker at the January 2020 Friends of the Texas Room meeting. Ginger is joining us as our new Processing Archivist and comes to us well-versed in our collections as she has used the Texas Room as a researcher! We are currently interviewing for the new Photo Archivist position and the job ad for Manager of HMRC is currently posted. (Photo of the Julia Ideson Building by Joel Draut)

The Texas Room is now open for research with no appointment needed! We are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm for research into Houston's history. The parking garage remains closed due to the construction, but there are several garages near the Julia Ideson Building open to the public. Please reach out to us at 832-393-1662 or txr.reference@houstontx.gov if you have any questions about your research topic or what to bring when you visit – a sweater to keep warm is always a good idea!

To document the COVID-19 global crisis, HMRC and the African American Library at the Gregory School collected Houstonians' unique perspectives on this crisis through a new memory project of virtual interviews. See and hear these interviews at the "[Covid-19 in Houston Memory Project](#)."

Programs and Events

JULY

Date tbd – Archives Watch Party: Sports

HMRC is continuing our summer program series, "Archives Watch Party." Each month, archivists curate a selection of films from the HMRC collections around a certain topic. This month's topic will be "Sports." The watch parties can be viewed on Facebook and YouTube on the designated premiere date.

July 28 – Remembering Carl Hampton

On July 26, 1970, Carl Hampton was assassinated by officers of the Houston Police Department. Hampton, 21, was chairman of the People's Party II, Houston's chapter of the Black Panther Party. In partnership with the Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC), we invite you to join us as we hear from Dr. Jeff Littlejohn and Dr. Felicia Harris. Friend of The Gregory School and local historian, Naomi Carrier, will provide an Artist's Response. [TO REGISTER: Eventbrite—The Gregory School](#)

AUGUST

Date tbd – Archives Watch Party: Animals

HMRC is continuing our summer program series "Archives Watch Party." Each month, archivists curate a selection of films from the HMRC collections around a certain topic. This month's topic will be "Animals." The watch parties can be viewed on Facebook and YouTube on the designated premiere date.

Date TBD – HMRC Instagram Takeover: Conservation

For one day each month, HMRC will "take over" the Houston Public Library.

Instagram account to post videos and photos offering a behind the scenes look at our collections. This can be viewed on the HPL Instagram page "Stories."

SEPTEMBER – Hispanic Heritage Month (starting 9/15)

Date TBD – HMRC Instagram Takeover: Unique Items in the Hispanic Collections

For one day each month, HMRC will "take over" the Houston Public Library.

Instagram account to post videos and photos offering a behind the scenes look at our collections. This can be viewed on the HPL Instagram page "Stories."

FTxR 2021 Membership Benefits

Photograph Reproductions

Each 2021 member of the Friends of the Texas Room is allowed up to five photographic reproductions at half-price this year. Send your requests to:

Photo.Reference@houstontx.gov

Texas Room Hours

The Texas Room is now open for research 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Tuesday - Saturday.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 – 4:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

WHAT OUR FTxR 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.

FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM POLICIES

The FTxR policies relate 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 FTxR. If you volunteer your time as an officer of FTxR or in the Texas Room or HMRC, keep track of your hours and turn them in to your corporation so that the FTxR may obtain a grant from your corporation's program. This is "found money" for FTxR 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.

2021 Board Officers and Directors:

President: Mister McKinney

Vice President: Susan Teich

Secretary: Charles Maynard

Treasurer: Frank Jones

Directors: Jim Bailey, Nancy Burch, Anthony Cavender, J.J. Gonzalez, Carol Haddock, and Cathy McCully

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 lindemann@SBCglobal.net or sent to his home address:

Jeff Lindemann, Editor
Texas Room Dispatch
4910 Houston Drive
Galveston, TX 77551

FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM

2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year: 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021

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:** _____

2021 Call for Entries
Friends of the Texas Room
Julia Ideson Award



Julia Ideson

Submission Deadline: June 15, 2021 (Now Closed)

This is a call for entries for the annual Julia Ideson Award sponsored by the Friends of the Texas Room at the Houston Public Library. The award commemorates the Houston Public Library's first director, Julia Bedford Ideson (1885-1945) and recognizes distinguished projects that document Houston and Texas history and culture.

The Julia Ideson Award and a prize of \$500.00 will be presented to the winner by the Friends of the Texas Room at its annual meeting on October 25, 2021. For additional information, visit www.friendsofthetexasroom.org or contact Anthony B. Cavender at Anthony.cavender@pillsburylaw.com (713) 276-7656.

Eligibility: In 2021, the call for entries is for scholarly researched and published books completed within the past five years (2015-2020) that document local Houston and/or Texas history and culture by USING THE RESOURCES OF THE HOUSTON METROPOLITAN RESEARCH CENTER'S TEXAS ROOM SIGNIFICANTLY, BUT NOT NECESSARILY EXCLUSIVELY.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH EACH ENTRY:

1. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail of the person(s) or organization nominating and submitting the book.
2. Brief description (three to five sentences) of the book.
3. LIST OF SPECIFIC RESOURCES OF THE TEXAS ROOM / HOUSTON METROPOLITAN RESEARCH CENTER USED IN THE BOOK AND BRIEF NOTE ON HOW THESE RESOURCES WERE USED.
4. Brief explanation (three to five sentences) of how the book contributes to a better understanding of local or Texas history/culture.
5. One copy of the book.

SUBMISSION:

Books must be submitted in the name of the author(s) or organization. Submitting an entry constitutes agreement to the terms of eligibility and serves as agreement that the Friends of the Texas Room may publicize the award and accompanying details about the recipient(s). **All submitted copies of books will become the property of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center.**

Send entries to:

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

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE JULIA IDESON AWARD

For a list of the previous recipients of the Julia Ideson Award as well as the winning submissions and judges for each year, please visit the FTxR Website:

<http://www.friendsofthetexasroom.org/JuliaIdesonAwardHistory.html>