

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH

A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
(Incorporated November 27th, 2002)
Volume 16, Number 3, July 2018

Monday, July 30th, 2018, Meeting

The Julia Ideson Building, Houston Public Library, first-floor auditorium,
500 McKinney Avenue

6:00 – 6:30 Reception

6:30 Program

PROGRAM

Robert Searcy,
long-time resident of Glenbrook Valley and a real estate broker who specializes in the
historic neighborhood,
will speak on the topic
“Glenbrook Valley, Houston’s Mid-Century Modern Subdivision”

Free parking, with validation at the meeting, is available in the garage under
the Jones Building accessed from Lamar Avenue. Parking is also available in the Smith Garage
located at 1100 Smith Street next to the Pappas restaurant. The garage entrance is on Smith
Street. A flat parking fee of \$5.00 is charged after 5:00 pm.

Free parking is also available on the nearby streets after 6:00 pm.

All attendees need to enter the Julia Ideson Building from the main entrance across the plaza
from the Central Library.

VISIT THE FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM WEBSITE!

www.friendsofthetexasroom.org

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MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30TH, 2018, GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by FTxR President Dorothy Knox Houghton.

Minutes of the prior quarterly meeting were presented and approved.

President Houghton next introduced the evening's speaker, Mr. Andrew Hall, volunteer with the Texas Historical Commission in investigating shipwrecks, who spoke on the topic "Galveston/Houston Packets: Steamboats on Buffalo Bayou." After his presentation, Mr. Hall addressed many questions from the audience.

The meeting concluded at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Maynard, Secretary

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

By Laney Chavez, HMRC Manager



McKinney Entrance to the Julia Ideson Building, Photo by Joel Draut

National Preparedness Month (NPM), recognized each September, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year. This NPM will focus on planning, with an overarching theme: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.**

Take time to learn lifesaving skills – such as CPR and first aid, check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards you may face, such as flooding and wind damage. Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Also, know how to take



practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas.

Disasters can strike quickly and without warning, rendering even the most prepared of us feeling helpless. NPM also falls in the middle of hurricane season, which is a great time for Houstonians to think about and prepare for what to do in case of an emergency.

Here are some resources to review to help you plan:

Hurricanes: <https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/enviro/hurricane.html>

Floods: <https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/dimrc/floods.html>

Harvey Health information bulletins:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNLMDIMRC/bulletins/1b49585?reqfrom=share>

PREPARATION

Track the storm via the [National Hurricane Center](#).

Make sure your insurance and disaster recovery vendor contact information is readily available.

Back up electronic records and store the back-ups off-site or in the cloud.

Secure outdoor furniture, bike racks, book drops, signage, etc. – anything that can become a projectile in strong winds.

Move important documents and heirlooms that are in areas vulnerable to flooding (i.e., the floor, lower levels of your house) or susceptible to rain (near windows or under roofs) out of harm's way.

If you have time, cut lengths of plastic sheeting to be able to throw them over shelves, cabinets, or equipment should the building envelope be compromised.

Review individual or family plans.

RECOVERY

Keep this 24/7 hotline number handy: 202.661.8068. The [National Heritage Responders](#), a team of trained conservators and collections care professionals administered by the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, are available 24/7 to provide advice.

See the [Northeast Document Conservation Center's Emergency Resources](#) or contact NEDCC's 24/7 Emergency Hotline at 855-245-8303.

Download the [FEMA mobile app](#) for disaster resources, weather alerts, and safety tips. The app (available in English and Spanish) provides a customizable checklist of emergency supplies, maps of open shelters and recovery centers, disaster survival tips, and weather alerts from the National Weather Service. The app also enables users to receive push notifications reminding them to take important steps to prepare their homes and families for disasters.

For tips on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane, go to <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>.

Familiarize yourself with the [disaster declaration process](#) in case one is declared for your state.

For at-your-fingertips salvage advice, download the free [ERS: Emergency Response and Salvage app](#) from the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation.

Download FEMA's [After the Flood: Advice for Salvaging Damaged Family Treasures](#) fact sheet, with tips and resources for individuals and institutions.

Download the FEMA fact sheet [Salvaging Water-Damaged Family Valuables and Heirlooms](#), which offers tips and resources on salvaging different types of objects, from photos to fabric to furniture, and more.

September leads into October, which is Archives Month, when we celebrate all things archives-related. In addition to having an emergency plan in place to protect yourself and your family, Archives Month is good time to start thinking about a plan to protect your valuable family records, heirlooms, and your genealogy research in case of an emergency.

HMRC will be offering programming in the upcoming months to help in emergency preparedness and recovery. Here are some planned programs we have for NPM and Archives Month:



Friends of the Texas Room members-only exclusive event!

From Shoeboxes to Clouds: Preserving Your Own Digital Archives

Thursday, August 23rd, 2018; 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Meldrum Room @ Julia Ideson Building

We create tons of digital files, and many of them aren't made for the long-term. But what about those that we do want to keep? How do we ensure they remain accessible over time? Join archivists from HMRC to learn about best practices for caring for your own personal digital archives. Please arrive early to update or renew your membership.

From Shoeboxes to Clouds: Preserving Your Own Digital Archives Thursday, September 27th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Meldrum Room @ Julia Ideson Building

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Aquatic Rescue: Water Damage Workshop

Thursday, October 11th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | @ Heights Neighborhood Library
**Archives Month*

Whether the water damage comes from rain, flooding, or extensive humidity, the effect on your important records can be severe. So what can you do? Join HMRC's conservationist to learn about preventing and responding to water damage.

Programs and Events

Julia Ideson Building Tour

Saturday, August 4th, 2018; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | @ Julia Ideson Building

Join us on the first Saturday of every month for a tour of the historic Julia Ideson Building, the beautiful Spanish Renaissance Revival (Plateresque)-style library in the heart of downtown. Learn about the building's history and use, its renovations and additions, and the significance of its art and architecture. Tours begin at the reception desk in the lobby and are available on a first come basis with a limit to 20 people.

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Julia Ideson Building Tour

Saturday, September 1st, 2018; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | @ Julia Ideson Building

Join us on the first Saturday of every month for a tour of the historic Julia Ideson Building, the beautiful Spanish Renaissance Revival (Plateresque)-style library in the heart of downtown. Learn about the building's history and use, its renovations and additions, and the significance of its art and architecture. Tours begin at the reception desk in the lobby and are available on a first come basis with a limit to 20 people.

Rare Books Room Showcase

Thursday, September 6th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Texas Room @ Julia Ideson Building

HMRC will showcase rare, interesting, and unique items from the Rare Books Room/HMRC Vault. This event will offer exclusive, insider access to materials that are normally restricted for preservation purposes. This is a rare opportunity for our customers to see, touch, and learn about some of the most precious treasures in our collection.

Show & Tell: Stories of Houston's Mujeres

Thursday, September 20th, 2018; 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm | Meldrum and Reynolds Rooms @ Julia Ideson Building

**Hispanic Heritage Month*

Hispanic women have shaped Houston in significant, and often underappreciated, ways. Join HMRC to see unique items that reflect the vibrant history of Hispanic women in Houston. This pop-up exhibit is a special opportunity to see, touch, and learn about the Hispanic Archival Collections. A discussion of the items on display will begin promptly at 7:00.

From Shoeboxes to Clouds: Preserving Your Own Digital Archives Thursday, September 27th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Meldrum Room @ Julia Ideson Building

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Part of **LibroFEST: Book Snake Craft** and **Anthropoesia: Writer's Workshop**

Saturday, September 29th; time and location TBD

**Hispanic Heritage Month*

Make a Book Snake with the Houston Metropolitan Research Center! A Book Snake is a weight for holding books open. Children and their families will enjoy this fun and easy craft while learning basic techniques for handling books with care.

Searching for a story? Find inspiration in the archive! Join us for a writer's workshop at the Houston Metropolitan Research Center. Archivists will share the hidden gems among family records and historical documents. Hear from Lupe Mendez, poet and founder of Tintero Projects, as he shares how a diary, a map, and newspaper clippings inspired his anthropoesia.

Hispanic History Loteria Night

Thursday, October 4th, 2018; time TBD | @ Discovery Green
**Hispanic Heritage Month*

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with loteria night! Questions will highlight Houston Hispanic history and will feature images from HMRC's Hispanic Archival Collections. Come join us for a night of fun and you could win prizes, including reproductions of historic images housed at HMRC.

Julia Ideson Building Tour

Saturday, October 6th, 2018; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | @ Julia Ideson Building

Join us on the first Saturday of every month for a tour of the historic Julia Ideson Building, the beautiful Spanish Renaissance Revival (Plateresque)-style library in the heart of downtown. Learn about the building's history and use, its renovations and additions, and the significance of its art and architecture. Tours begin at the reception desk in the lobby and are available on a first come basis with a limit to 20 people.

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Oral History 101: Family History Interviewing

Thursday, October 18th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Reynolds Room @ Julia Ideson Building
**Archives Month*

The holiday season is around the corner, a time for family gatherings and family stories. Interested in holding onto your family history? Learn the basics of oral history project development; from project planning, equipment, interviewing, to preserving and sharing your interviews.

Where's the Book on my House? How to Research a Historic Property

Thursday, October 25th, 2018; 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Meldrum Room @ Julia Ideson Building

**Archives Month*

Curious about your home's history? Don't know where to start? HMRC's Architectural Archivist will give a basic overview of how to research a historic property, highlighting useful resources in HMRC collections. This program includes a tour of the Texas Room to introduce the public to our collections and how to access them through the reference desk.

Houston: the Poetry of Us

Saturday, October 27th, 2018; 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Meldrum Room @ Julia Ideson Building

**Archives Month*

Does Houston have a poetry scene? Share your experience and perspectives at our collecting event aimed at gathering the voices of Houston poets and perspectives on the history of poetry in the Bayou City. This oral history project is a collaborative partnership between the Houston Metropolitan Research Center and Lupe Mendez, poet and founder of Tintero Projects. Staff will be on-site with recording equipment to film brief interviews with attendees. All participants will receive a copy of their interview.

2018 Membership Benefits

Photograph Reproductions

Each 2018 member of the Friends of the Texas Room is allowed up to five photographic reproductions at half-price this year. Image sizes available at half-price are:

- 5x7 print (\$12.50 normally costs \$6.25)
- 8x10 print (\$18.00 normally costs \$9.00)

Please note: Requests for the five half-price photograph reproductions need to be directed to me at Laney.Chavez@houstontx.gov for tracking purposes and to ensure the Photo Lab processes the payment correctly.

Members-only events

Attend receptions, programs, and behind-the-scenes tours exclusively available to members.

Memory Lab - COMING SOON!

Be the first to work with our upcoming personal digital archiving station. Members of the FTxR will be granted early admission to the station and will be given access to members-only reservations for a shorter wait time.

Volunteer

HMRC can use volunteers who want to help going through archival collections box by box to determine what is in them. HMRC can also use volunteers who want to help create lesson plans incorporating primary sources from HMRC's collections. HMRC is also 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, Reading Room, and/or Exhibit Hall
- Instruction on history topics
- Guided informational visits to exhibits and installations

If any of these opportunities interest you, please contact Laney Chavez (Laney.Chavez@houstontx.gov) to discuss further.

Texas Room Hours

The Texas Room hours are:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Thursday: 12:00 noon - 8:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

FTxR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Quarterly issues of the *Texas Room Dispatch*.
- Quarterly meetings featuring outstanding speakers on local history.
- Preservation consultation sessions with the HMRC staff members on preserving family documents and memorabilia. Sessions are conducted twice a year on Fridays when the Texas Room is normally closed.
- Research Lock-Ins twice a year on a Friday. HMRC staff members will provide one-on-one research consultation to FTxR members.
- Five photographic reproductions at half-price this year. Image sizes available at half-price are:
 - 5x7 print (\$6.25/normally costs \$12.50)
 - 8x10 print (\$9.00/ normally costs \$18.00)

(Please note: Requests for the five half-price photograph reproductions need to be directed to Laney.Chavez@houstontx.gov for tracking purposes and to ensure the Photo Lab processes the payment correctly.)

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.

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.

2018 Board of Directors:

President: Dorothy Knox Houghton

Vice President: Susan Teich

Secretary: Charles Maynard

Treasurer: Frank Jones

Directors: Nancy Burch, Anthony Cavender, Carol Haddock, Jeff Lindemann, Catherine McCulley, Randall McKinney II, and George Werner

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

2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year: 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018

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:** _____