

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH
A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
Volume 5, Number 3, July 2007

JULY 23rd MEETING
6:30 Reception and Book Signing
7:00 Program

PROGRAM:
HISTORIC HOUSTON STREETS
WITH HISTORIAN
MARKS HINTON
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

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FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS ROOM MEETINGS

This year all meetings will be held on Monday evenings at the Museum of Printing History unless otherwise reported. All meetings begin with a reception at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:00. Please mark your calendars for future meetings: July 23, and October 22.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to announce that you now can log on to the Friends' website at < www.friendsofthetexasroom.org >. There you will find a very handsome home page featuring an early photograph of the Texas Room. Each successive page also features an archival photo of the Texas Room or the Julia Ideson Building. The information available on the site is comprehensive including our mission, board of directors, meeting announcements, projects, our gifts to the HMRC, and an archive of our newsletters. The newsletters include the minutes of our general meetings. Membership applications are included as well as links to the websites of other organizations which might be of interest to Texas Room patrons.

The person directly responsible for this wonderful accomplishment is the editor of our newsletter, Jeff Lindemann. Jeff has devoted many hours to this project, and he deserves our heartiest congratulations and thanks. He and I also thank all of our Board members, past and present for their input. We are especially grateful to the Information Technology Department at the Houston public Library for hosting our website in the Library's server.

Joel Draut, the Library's photographer, provided the pictures from the archives. He also photographed the architectural features of the building which appear on the website. Steve Hill helped coordinate it all.

Friends' members Dick and Sally Luna have graciously agreed to chair a publicity committee to develop more public awareness of the wonderful programs which we enjoy at our general meetings. They are working with Robin Cavanaugh, Assistant Director for External Affairs at the Library, to identify appropriate media sources for our publicity. Ann Becker is chairperson of our Hospitality Committee which is responsible for the lovely receptions before our general meetings. Barbara Eaves and Jo Haddock assist her. My sincere thanks to all these members who are helping to raise the profile of our organization in the community.

Dorothy Knox Houghton

HISTORIAN MARKS HINTON TO SPEAK AT JULY 23RD MEETING

The speaker for our July 23rd meeting is Marks Hinton, author of *Historic Houston Streets: The Stories Behind the Names*. Mr. Hinton has published numerous articles on Houston's culture and history. His latest work, published by the Archival Press of Texas, documents the fascinating history behind the names of the streets we travel daily. Mr. Hinton used the resources in the Texas Room for much of his research. His book will be for sale during our reception for him at 6:30, and he will be available for book signing.

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

by Steve Hill, Assistant Manager, Houston Metropolitan Research Center

Greetings to all of our Friends from the Texas Room! I trust this newsletter finds each of you content and doing well. Given this is the beginning of the summer season, I'll fill you in on some hot news from the front line of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC).

One special activity worth mentioning this quarter includes the HMRC hosting the annual Friends of the Library meeting in June. Notably, it was the most heavily attended meeting in many years. Evidently, both staff and the public attended in record numbers and we believe this is a sign of an increased interest in our facility and collections.

Speaking of collections, additional materials on the Shamrock Hotel were donated by the daughter of the hotel accountant. Included in this small collection are photos, announcements, a menu from the restaurant, cocktail napkins, newspaper clippings etc. Just the sort of things you'd expect to find in a little gem of a collection such as this. Also, HMRC collections have provided materials for *Tundra Turnaround*, a video production for NBA TV and other materials were used for the article "Matrimony and the Mayors of Houston," which will appear in the *Houston History Magazine*.

On the technical side of things, our photo lab is pleased to announce the arrival of their new digital equipment. We are thrilled about the potential for this new equipment and anticipate it could expedite the processing of our reproduction orders in the years to come.

One of our goals and objectives this year includes presenting Houston history through exhibits, to be presented on a quarterly basis. Our current exhibit, ***Anita Bryant Comes to Houston; June 1977*** commemorates the 30th anniversary of a controversial crusade led by singer Anita Bryant. This sparked outrage in the gay and lesbian communities across the country. On June 16, 1977, a protest was led downtown Houston by 4,000 gays, lesbians and their supporters while Ms. Bryant entertained at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Included are photographs posters, leaflets, full-page newspaper ads, and other materials from the campaign. Also on display are both pro-Anita Bryant "Save Our Children" campaign literature and pro-gay "Vote Against Repeal of Human Rights" materials. This exhibit was originally slated to run only in the month of June but due to popular demand, it has been extended thru the end of July.

Our next exhibit, ***African American Texans: Our Legacy*** will run August thru November. In case you were not aware, people of African descent are some of the oldest residents of Texas. Beginning with the arrival of Estevanico in 1528,

African Texans have had a long heritage in the state. They have worked alongside people of Asian, Mexican, European and indigenous descent in order to make the state what it is today. Their contributions to the state's growth and development, in spite of the obstacles they have faced, have been truly remarkable. This exhibit highlights the presence and contributions African Americans have made to Texas, especially in the Houston area. We hope you enjoy them both and we look forward to your next visit to the Texas Room.

Sincerely,
Steve Hill

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30th, 2007, MEETING

The General Meeting of the Friends of the Texas Room met at 7:00 pm, April 30th, 2007, at the Museum of Printing History after a reception hosted by the new Hospitality Committee composed of Chairman Ann Becker, Jo Lee Haddock, and Barbara Eaves.

Dorothy Knox Houghton introduced the speaker, Dr. Michael Botson, a member of the faculty of the Houston Community College, winner of the Fehrenbach Prize, and enthusiastic researcher in the Texas Room where he found material for his book, *Labor, Civil Rights, and the Hughes Tool Company*. Dr. Botson explained how his research revealed the intersection of the segregation that began with the founding of the company in 1909, subsequent labor organization, and finally the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Dorothy Knox Houghton led the business meeting. The minutes of the last general meeting on January 22 were approved. Treasurer Cathy Fitch reported that our checking account stood at \$26,259 and the savings account at \$10,234. Membership chair Dorothy Johnson is recovering from knee surgery. Jeff Lindemann announced that Niche Marketing is designing the Friends of the Texas Room website, which the Houston Public Library is hosting. The filming by Jim Bailey for the documentary is soon to be completed and the editing to begin.

Sims McCutchan, heading the new Community Outreach Committee, outlined the Friends of the Texas Room's goal to develop a plan to network with other groups of like interests and to build a speakers' bureau.

Steve Hill, director of the Texas Room, has a need for long-term volunteers, willing to train and sign on for one day a week; particularly wanted is someone to work with the architectural archivist and another to transcribe oral histories.

Sally and Dick Luna are chairing a Publicity Committee for the Friends of the Texas Room. They are compiling a list of media or other sources of pro bono announcements for our programs.

Because Exxon-Mobil makes significant contributions in recognition of employees who volunteer time or give donations to the Friends of the Texas Room, the Board wishes to give a book on the history of the oil industry in Texas in the corporation's honor to the Texas Room.

It was announced that on at 7:30 May 14 the Jewish Community Center will host a program by the authors of the recently published Lone Star of David.

The meeting adjourned at 9 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary S. Dix, Secretary

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

Please contact Jeff Lindemann, editor of *The Texas Room Dispatch* (jeff.lindemann@hccs.edu), 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 WEBSITE

The Friends of the Texas Room will soon have its website up and running to give our organization an Internet presence and increase membership. From several companies that had submitted bids, the Board chose Niche Marketing to design the site. When completed, the site will be hosted by the Houston Public Library. Among its many useful features, the site will contain an archive of all our past copies of our newsletter *The Texas Room Dispatch*.

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 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.

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 – Mary Dix

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 TX 77006-4306

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

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.
- 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: _____