

THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH
A Publication of the Friends of the Texas Room
Volume 7, Number 3, July 2009
July 27th MEETING
6:30 Reception
7:00 Program

PROGRAM:
Telephone Road, Texas
By Burton Chapman
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

An Invitation

Members of the Friends of the Texas Room
are cordially invited
to a private tour of the prestigious
Lee – Grant Exhibit
Saturday, September 12, 2009
1:00 to 4:00 P. M.

The Museum of Southern History
Houston Baptist University
Morris Cultural Arts Center
7502 Fondren Road

Refreshments will be served.
Children of appropriate age are welcome.
This event was arranged by Friends' member Joella Morris.

Please reply to Suzie Snoddy, acceptances only: 281-649-3997

INSIDE THIS EDITION OF *THE TEXAS ROOM DISPATCH*

The President's Column

by Dorothy Knox Houghton

Reminder about Membership Renewal

Minutes of the April 27th General Meeting

News from the Texas Room

by Kemo Curry, Manager of The Texas Room/HMRC

Friends of the Texas Room Seeks Volunteers to Market DVD 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

Houston History Magazine Subscription Form

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

Please make note of the special invitation which appears elsewhere in this newsletter from Friends' member Joella Morris and the Museum of Southern History. The Friends members are invited to a private showing of the current exhibit, "Lee - Grant," located in the Morris Cultural Arts Center, 7502 Fondren Road, on the campus of Houston Baptist University on Saturday, September 12. This should be a lovely event, and I urge everyone to attend.

I am happy to report that the DVD of our documentary, "In Search of Houston's History." is now on sale at Brazos Bookstore, River Oaks Bookstore, and the San Jacinto Museum of History. Copies also may be purchased by filling out the order form found on our Friends of the Texas Room website. The cost is \$30 per DVD no matter where you purchase it. Proceeds support the HMRC. I want to thank Cathy Fitch and Alice Conlon who are handling the mail order sales. The direct link to the order form can be found at http://www.friendsofthetexasroom.org/pdfs/DVD_OrderForm3.pdf .

The Friends have donated forty copies of the DVD to the Houston Public Library so that each branch can have at least one.

Finally, congratulations are in order to David Welling, winner of the 2008 Julia Ideson Award, for his book, Cinema Houston, which also has received the 2009 SAH Downing Award from the Society of Architectural Historians, a national organization. More information about the book and the award is available on the website: <http://www.cinemahouston.info>.

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 first annual Julia Ideson Award was given last October, and we have enjoyed wonderful speakers at our meetings. Your support has made all of this possible. **If we don't hear from you soon, 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.

MINUTES OF THE April 27th, 2009, GENERAL MEETING

The General Meeting of the Friends of the Texas Room was held at the Museum of Printing History, 1324 W. Clay, on April 27, 2009. A reception was held at 6:30. President Dorothy Knox Houghton called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. President Houghton asked Mary Jo Coselli to take minutes.

There was a terrible rain storm, and a Quorum was not present so no official business could be acted upon.

Our two speakers for the evening, Phoebe Tudor and Architect Barry Moore, were introduced by President Houghton.

Phoebe Tudor was responsible for raising funds for the new wing of the Julia Ideson Building. She reaffirmed that the restoration had secured \$10 million of public monies and an additional \$11 million of private donations has been raised to allow the ground breaking in January. Ms. Tudor then introduced Barry Moore. Moore was appointed the project Architect. Two and a half years ago, he secured the 501(c)3 designation so construction could begin. Susan Keeton, a landscape designer with Smith and Lands, is to redo the gardens which are to serve as an outdoor reading room. The goal is to finish and reopen in 2010. Moore presented an informative slide show using pictures and architectural blue prints of the original Carnegie library and showed how the new plans will incorporate many elements of the original Library into the new. The views of the progress were most interesting.

President Houghton introduced Susan Teich as volunteer coordinator to work with Kemo Curry in the new Texas Room securing volunteers to help with indexing and moving files.

Alice Conlon is responsible for mailing the DVD's "In Search of Houston's History." She brought the order forms to be used.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mary Jo Coselli

NEWS FROM THE TEXAS ROOM

By Kemo Curry, Manager, HMRC

Don't you think Ralph Adams Cram would approve? It may look rough, but to this viewer's eyes the new wing for the Julia Ideson Building looks just Grand!



As if the progress on the wing isn't enough to crow about, I have some exciting news about the Archives. We have begun an inventory that is, in effect, a conversion project. Approximately 2,000 collection records have been uploaded to HPL's catalog database and once we have done our work they will be publicly available. That means one could do a keyword search in the catalog on the "Imperial Sugar Company" and see that HMRC has a collection of eight boxes of material. The inventory is taking place on the three days of the week that the Texas Room is closed to the public.

Another wonderful boon to HMRC researchers is that the Maresh WPA files have been digitized. Some of the records have been uploaded (there are thousands more to come) and are searchable by computer on our Digital Library site. Please take a look at this test site keeping in mind that it is a work in progress: <http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/>

You can browse the various collections, including the Bank of the Southwest – Frank J. Schlueter Photographic Collection, the *Red Book of Houston*, and the Oral History Project.

The last exhibit to be mounted in the Julia Ideson Building as we know her promises to be a great one. The "Wild Man of the Sax: an Arnett Cobb Retrospective" will take an intimate look into the life of this native Houstonian and international jazz artist. Arnett Cobb's development will be traced from the early years, growing up in a musical family, through his first efforts with the violin, his discovery of the saxophone, his time with Milt Larkin and Lionel Hampton to the formation of his own band, "Arnett Cobb and the Mobb". Headliner at Birdland, the Roseland Ballroom and Harlem's Apollo Theater, Arnett also took Europe by storm in the 1970s. In 1986, with his daughter Lizette Cobb, he founded the Jazz Heritage Society of Texas, which established the Jazz Archives in the Houston Metropolitan Research Center. Located in the lobby of the Julia Ideson Building, the exhibit of photographs and oral history from the archives celebrates the ninety-first anniversary of Arnett's birth, and is accompanied by musical instruments, posters and other ephemera on loan from the private collection of Lizette Cobb.

A reminder about our progressive closing:

July 1 – August 31, 2009: Open Monday, Thursday, Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

September 1 – October 31, 2009: By appointment only, Monday through Friday, not including Saturdays. Some City Directories (bound volumes and microfiche) will be moved to CLA to complement their run, providing access to this most heavily used portion of HMRC's collection.

November 1, 2009 – Opening: By appointment only, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Please contact http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/services/eref_form.html for appointments.

We have some extra copies of materials we would like to sell. Please note the following list of items and prices:

Prices for items sold in the Texas Room (including 8.25% Sales Tax)

<i>Houston Natural Gas Corporation Golden Anniversary</i>	\$01.08
<i>Houston Review</i> (see separate list for available titles)	\$01.08
<i>Joseph Stephen Cullinan</i> , King, John O.	\$02.17
<i>Port of Houston: A History</i> , Sibley, Marilyn McAdams	\$02.17
Texas Gulf Coast Historical Association periodicals	\$01.08

Texas Gulf Coast Historical Association Titles

TITLE	Vol	Issue	Month	Year
<i>Crusade for Conformity: The Ku Klux Klan in Texas, 1920-1930</i> , Alexander, Charles C.	6	1	AUG	1962
<i>Early History of the Houston Oil company of Texas, 1901-1908</i> , King, John O.	3	1	APR	1959
<i>European Common Market</i> , Clayton, W.L. Created on 9/11/2008 2:09:00 PM	6	2	NOV	1962
<i>Growth of the Business of Anderson, Clayton & Co.</i> , Tinsley, James A., ed.	10	na	SEP	1966
<i>H. Kempner: The First One Hundred Years, An Address by I.H. Kempner</i>	2	1	MAR	1958
<i>History of Gulf States Utilities Company, 1912-1947</i> , Fussell, Howard Ricks	11	na	SEP	1967
<i>How To Understand Business Without Really Trying</i> , Johnson, Arthur M.	7	1	JUN	1963
<i>Letters From the Colonel: Edward M. House to Frank Andrews</i> ,	4	1	DEC	1960

1899-1902, Tinsley, James A., ed.				
<i>Lyceum to Library: A Chapter In The Cultural History of Houston,</i> Hatch, Orin Walker	9	1	SEP	1965
<i>Monroe D. Anderson: His Life and Legacy: An Address by Col.</i> Bates, William B.	1	1	FEB	1957
<i>Polignac's Texas Brigade,</i> Barr, Alwyn	8	1	NOV	1964
<i>Select Letters of Harris Kempner (1837-1894),</i> Tinsley, James A., ed.	1	2	DEC	1957
<i>Short History of the Sugar Industry in Texas,</i> Johnson, William R.	5	1	APR	1961
<i>Value of Business History in Oilfinding,</i> Pratt, Wallace E.	5	2	AUG	1961
<i>Whistle in the Piney Woods: Paul Bremond and the Houston, East and West Texas Railway,</i> Maxwell, Robert S.	6	2	NOV	1963

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.

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: Alice Conlon, 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 or sent to his home address:

Jeff Lindemann

The Texas Room Dispatch Editor

3405 Roseland

Houston, Texas 77006

**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.

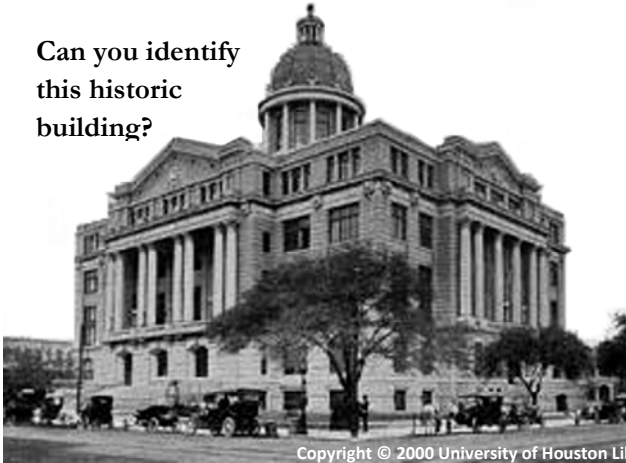
__ Programs: Help develop programs or special seminars or workshops.

__ Public Relations: Developing posters, displays, news releases, handouts, etc.

__ Special Projects

__ Other: _____

Can you identify
this historic
building?



Houston HISTORY

Many Houston stories remain untold. ***Houston History*** magazine gives voice to our past, both educating and entertaining in the exploration of this great city's history and culture.

Subscribe Today

Subscription Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

INDIVIDUAL

One Year - \$15

Two Years - \$30

STUDENT: One Year - \$10

(include copy of student ID)

Check or Money Order payable to

University of Houston

Gift Subscription

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Visa MasterCard

Discover American Express

Card No. _____

**Return to: Center for Public History - 547 Agnes Arnold Hall
University of Houston - Houston, TX 77204-3007**