Friends of Library Will Host Richard Bailey

The Friends of Houston Cole Library continues its support of Kaleidoscope, the JSU Spring Arts festival, with another scholar from the Alabama Humanities Foundation on February 23, 2000, at 3:00. Richard Bailey, research and writing specialist at Maxwell Air Force Base, presents "Unforgettable". This presentation focuses on W. C. Handy, Nat “King” Cole, and Dinah Washington as Alabamians.

Richard Bailey received his MA in history at Atlanta University and his Ph.D. in 19th Century American History from Kansas State University. He was worked with Auburn University Public Television on several documentaries. He is also the author of Neither Carpetbaggers nor Scalawags: Black Officeholders during the Reconstruction, 1867-1878. He appears regularly as guest on radio and television to discuss Alabama history, black life, and American history.

Honorable Jim Bennett was Friends’ Fall Guest Speaker

Honorable Jim Bennett, Alabama Secretary of State and recognized historian on the early Alabama iron industry, was the guest speaker for the fall meeting of Friends of Houston Cole Library. He shared with the audience the 30 years of research that led to his recently published book, Tannehill and the Growth of the Alabama Iron Industry. While the publication centers on the Old Tannehill Ironworks near Birmingham, it also covers the iron trade in other parts of the state, including three Civil War era furnaces located in Calhoun County: Crane Creek, Oxford, and Janney.

Mr. Bennett recounted stories of how Daniel Hillman unlocked Alabama’s mineral resources when he built a forge on the banks of Roupes Creek near the Tannehill plantation in 1830. His ironworks turned out skillets, kettles, and bar iron for smiths. Ironically, planters at the time were importing tools and plows from England, unaware that they were standing on brown and red rock that was to become the resource for heralding the beginning of the

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Renewal Time for Friends Membership

This is the time of year when current members renew their support of Friends of Houston Cole Library. It is also a time when we extend a special invitation to new members. Use the membership form elsewhere in this newsletter. One never goes wrong supporting libraries.

“(T)he health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.”

--Carl Sagan in Cosmos

“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.”

--Henry Ward Beecher

“Libraries: The medicine chest of the soul.”

--Inscription over the door of the Library of Thebes
Board of Directors 1999-2000
Kenneith Calvert
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Steven Whitton
Mary Williams
Douglas Wilson

COMING
February 23
Richard Bailey,
Research and
Writing Specialist
3:00 p.m.,
11th Floor,
Houston Cole
Library
Watch for next
newsletter for
upcoming events.

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iron industry in Alabama.
Hillman's forge eventually
grew into three massive
furnaces that produce tons of
pig iron for the Confederate
war effort. Eventually the
furnaces, along with others in
Alabama, produced 70 percent
of the Confederate iron supply,
leading to its invasion by
federal forces in March and
April of 1865. In recent years,
the toppled stones of Tannehill
have been resurrected to
become what is now Tannehill
Ironworks Historical State
Park, one of Alabama's top ten
tourist attractions.

Secretary Bennett is a graduate
of Jacksonville State Univer­
sity and serves on its Board of
Trustees.

Friends of Houston Cole Library
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265-1602

YES! I wish to join the Friends of
Houston Cole Library as indicated below:

Individual
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Paron

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Please make your check payable to Friends of Houston Cole Library.
Your contribution is tax deductible and may be eligible for matching by
your employer.

Name
Address
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Please check one:
[ ] Yes, I would like information on membership benefits.
[ ] Yes, I would like information on volunteer opportunities.
[ ] Yes, I would like information on events and programs.

Please return this form to:
Friends of Houston Cole Library
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265-1602

Watch for next newsletter for upcoming events.