



# Saltire

Friends of Houston Cole Library ♦ Volume 3, Issue 1 ♦ Winter, 2000

## Friends of Library Will Host Richard Bailey



**T**he 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 worked with Auburn University Public Television on several documentaries. He is also the author of *Neither Carpetbaggers nor Scalawags: Black Office-holders 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

**H**onorable 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 blacksmiths. 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

**T**his 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*

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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 University and serves on its Board of Trustees.

**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.**

LIBRARY

BEVIS MARY DANIELL

Jacksonville, AL 36265  
700 Pelham Road North

Friends of the Houston Cole Library

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY



**Y**ou are cordially invited to become a Friend of Houston Cole Library. The purpose of the organization is to promote an appreciation of the Library as the center of academic life at Jacksonville State University and to provide enrichment for its resources.

The privileges of membership are: 1) an opportunity to participate in the enhancement of the library, 2) a card entitling you to check out books, and 3) an opportunity to enjoy the programs and activities of the Friends.



**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**  \$10 Annually
- Contributing**  \$25 Annually
- Benefactor**  \$100 Annually
- Patron**  \$500 Annually

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.

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