UPCOMING EVENT

If you’re an early planner, mark your calendar now for the next annual dinner:


After reading this newsletter, you'll know why it is always a memorable event.

A WONDERFUL FRIEND

Since the Friends’ inception in 1990, Patrice Baur has been a Board member. She is both a lifetime member and one of 17 charter members. Beyond those numbers, however, is an unparalleled gift of service. She initiated the Memorial and Honoree Book Program, which resulted in donations exceeding $48,000.00, and the Faculty Wish List Program, which contributed more than $6,000.00 to purchase library materials requested by faculty, a program that morphed into an annual gift of $500.00 for new faculty library requests.

She took the lead in numerous fundraising events: the 1990 Festival of the Books, the 2002 Dining with Shakespeare gala, and the 2004 Rewriting Shakespeare festivity. Fittingly, she earned the Friends’ Special Volunteer award in 2000, but only Patrice Baur could do even more. As Hospitality chair she orchestrated 24 special events for Book Nook special sales and provided the same special ambiance for more than 67 literary events. As Annual Dinner chair she planned more than 12 dinners. As Historian she prepared numerous annual reports, including the anniversary report: Friends of Spring Hill College Library: Celebrating 25 Years of Service. She was instrumental both in securing the Bishop Portier will and for commissioning the portrait of Dr. Charles Boyle for the Library Archives/Rare Book Room. As President from 2002 to 2004, her creativity and dedication moved the Friends forward. During that time, she secured the Valentine Swider bequest of $56,000.00, which enabled purchase of a jumbo scanner and other equipment, software, art work, and, in 2016, two custom archival display cabinets.

Patrice may be retiring from the Board this year, but not from ongoing service to the Friends in her newly elected position as Board Member Emeritus, with voting rights.
The Valentine Swider bequest has benefited the Archives/Rare Book Room in many ways. It made possible the digitizing and binding of seven special collections, the purchase of the Literature Online database, and a professional scanner to digitize other materials in the Archives. This year it made possible the installation of two professional display cases to showcase physical artifacts in archival collections. Patrice Baur, who led this initiative, secured the expertise of Fabrication Specialists, Inc. (1600 Industrial Park Circle, Mobile, AL 36693), the firm that did much of the original custom wood work in the Burke Library. Consequently, the new cabinets blend in perfectly with the original wood work. These beautiful, archival grade cabinets will securely display and protect priceless objects in the Archives and will also provide additional display areas for larger exhibits mounted in the adjacent Barter Room.

On May 12, 2016, the old Byrne Library Reading Room was transformed into “An Evening in Downton Abbey’s Library.” In addition to an open bar, wonderful food, wine, and an expanded silent auction, this annual event remains one of Mobile’s best bargains. The cost, $50.00/per person, has never been raised. Cost is not the issue, however. What makes these evenings special is the comradery and the celebrations.

The Friends thanked Julie Kraft for her enthusiastic long-term support of the Friends and for her service as President from 2014 to 2016. They remembered Fr. Marvin Kitten, S.J., who served as Jesuit Community Friends Board member from 2009 to 2016. They also expressed both appreciation and gratitude to the new Book Nook Manager, Dennis Austin. Although the Book Nook (lower level, Burke Library) is open just two days a week (Thur. Noon—4 PM and Sat. 10 AM—4 PM), the volunteers work many more hours. The highlight of the evening: the presentation of The Friends’ $22,000.00 gift to the Library: two professional archival quality display cases.
2016 ANNUAL DINNER SPONSORS

Last year’s annual dinner guests were asked about both their overall experience and ways to further enhance the evening. One answer: Expand the silent auction.

Traditionally what sets the Friends’ silent auction apart from others is its focus on books. Many are hard-to-find works by local authors. Others cover Southern history, art, special children’s books, and significant religious works.

This year the silent auction was expanded to include admission tickets to local museums—great for visiting guests—antiques, gift certificates from local businesses, and original works of art. It just keeps getting better and better.

Thank you to our generous sponsors, and if you visit their homes, galleries, websites, and/or stores, please let them know how much you appreciate their support of the Friends.

Alabama Art Supply (gift certificate)
Patrice and “Bro” Baur (antique gun, clock, and books)
Calagaz Photo (gift certificates)
Robin Blackwell, (painting, Library). Robin paints for and with children with autism All her profits go to autism charities.
Pat Darr and Audrey Patterson (greenery & flowers from their gardens)
Linda Theobald, artist (framed print of a Map of Spring Hill College)
Wild Birds Unlimited (gift basket for bird feeding)
Merv White-Spunner in concert with SHC alum Frank Knippenberg (Blue Moon Farms), flowers, candles, & table decorations

REV. MARVIN KITTEN, S.J. MEMORIAL AWARD

A priest for 51 years, Fr. Kitten left a legacy of service, humor, and love to all who were fortunate to know him. He came to the Hill in 2008 and quickly became a source of fun and inspiration to the many students with whom he worked in campus ministry. The Friends tried to find a fitting way to honor him. What better way than an award of $500.00 to students with whom he worked. The award was given to twin sisters Rebecca and Brianna Weis (Class of 2016).

For four years, both were faithful volunteers as readers and Eucharistic ministers at the 11 AM Sunday Mass. They were also devoted volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, Coastal Clean-up, and Greenskeepers, the SHC environmental organization.

Thank you for being a friend and for supporting the memorial/honoree gift book program

The generosity and dues of members make it possible to continue to support the library. Each member is integral to the Friends’ success.

You can contribute to the memorial and Honoree program by going online: https://badgernet.shc.edu/memorial-and-honoree-books. Gifts of books can also be brought to the library any time.

“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.”

Author Neil Gaiman, quoted in The Guardian (U.K.)
JOIN THE FRIENDS OF SPRING HILL COLLEGE LIBRARY

Membership Levels (check one):  ○ Lifetime/Corporate $1,000.00  ○ Patron $100.00  ○ Family $40.00
                               ○ Individual/SHC Alumni $25.00  ○ SHC Student/Faculty/Staff $10.00

ALL LEVELS INCLUDE BORROWING PRIVILEGES.

Enclosed is my check for $_____________.

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.  Ms.  ________________________________________________________________

Address:  _________________________________________________________________________

City:  ___________________________  State:  ___________________  Zip:  ____________________

Phone:  ___________________________  E-Mail Address:  __________________________________

Enclose check and mail to Friends of Spring Hill College Library, 4000 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36608-1791. Alternatively, join online at https://badgernet.shc.edu/sslpage.aspx?pid=399

BOOK NOOK LOCATION
Burke Library, Lower Level

HOURS OF OPERATION
Thursday, Noon—4 PM
Saturday, 10 AM—4 PM

Drop by during operating hours, meet wonderful volunteers, and consider joining the Book Nook team.

FRIENDS OF SPRING HILL COLLEGE
LIBRARY
4000 DAUPHIN STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608