The Lives and Legacy of Two Civil War Chaplains Buried in Mobile: Father Darius Hubert, S.J. and Father Abram Ryan.

You won't want to miss this fascinating discussion by freelance editor, writer, and independent scholar Katherine Bentley Jeffrey. In Two Civil Wars (Louisiana State University Press, 2016) she juxtaposes the compositions of 13-year-old Celeste Repp, a student at St. Mary's Academy in Baton Rouge (1859—1861), with a journal that sailor William L. Park later kept in the same notebook while on the U.S. gunboat Essex during the “American Rebellion.” Fr. Hubert, S.J. was Celeste’s French teacher, and while the journals/compositions offer two views of the war, so, too, do the personal stories of Fr. Hubert, S.J. and Fr. Abram Ryan, both of whom are buried in Mobile. These two Civil War priests will be the focus of the discussion.

Annual Dinner: May 11th, 2017: Celebrating Sherlock Holmes

In 1887, Sir Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle wrote A Study in Scarlet, his first work featuring the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. Join the Friends 130 years later, for a fabulous meal, an open bar, an expanded silent auction with numerous collectibles (including a signed first edition of Eudora Welty's Delta Wedding), and music by violinist Jim Lichtenberger. Bring your powers of deduction and observation. There will be a mystery to solve.

To secure your reservation make a check out to Friends of Spring Hill College Library and mail by May 5th to Audrey Patterson, 3763 Old Shell Rd., Unit B, Mobile, AL 36608. Cost: $50 per person
Burke Librarian Bret Heim Composes Choral Piece

Father William Rewak’s scholarship on James Agee is what initially inspired Bret Heim to begin composing a choral piece on one of Agee’s poems. It was composed, but not “well-polished” in 1996. Then, 20 years later, in 2016, a fine chamber choir in Pittsburgh approached him with a commission for an Easter motet. Agee’s poem, “Him We Killed and Laid Alone” seemed like the perfect text.

Phyllis Compretta: 20 Years of Service

When Phyllis started at Spring Hill College in July, 1996, little did she know it would be the beginning of a long career in the library. As Interlibrary Loan and Government Documents Assistant, she’s witnessed an array of changes over time. There is a magnificent new building, new interlibrary loan software, and an increasing number of online government documents. In Phyllis’s memory, Spring Hill College has always been a net lender. This means it lends more books to other libraries than it borrows from them. This is a testament to the quality of the library’s collections.

An avid reader, Phyllis loves her job. She appreciates and finds “calming” the detailed and consistent procedures involved in processing interlibrary loan requests and documents.

A great collection is a first step to a great library, but equally important are the many services libraries offer, including interlibrary loan. Behind each of these is a great staff member, and Phyllis is certainly one of them. Congratulations on your first 20 years, Phyllis, and may there be many more to come.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Dennis Austin, Lauren Jensen, and Sandra Rogers

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

Join the Friends on Facebook and give us a “thumbs up.”
https://www.facebook.com/shcfriendsofthelibrary

Dr Puto (l.) and Phyllis Compretta (r.)
**Dr. John Hafner: A legacy of giving**

For many years, Dr. John Hafner was a familiar face at Spring Hill College. Not only was he a beloved professor of English, but he returned to campus often to greet former students at homecomings. Today, he continues to give back. As the original 1931 Heywood Wakefield Corporation Byrne Library chairs were made available to potential buyers, Dr. Hafner purchased eight of them. Recently, he decided to return them to the College after having them restored by AJB Restoration, Inc. (Mobile). Their new home is room 365, the Division of Philosophy and Theology’s Conference Room, located in the Lucey Administration Center. The Division already had an original Byrne Library Reading Room table. Now, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Hafner, eight original library chairs around it are having a homecoming.

As Theology Professor Dr. Timothy Carmody remarked, “The Division of Philosophy and Theology is thrilled to have the original library chairs to match the library table. They make the room look elegant and homey. While it is our ‘conference room,’ the feel is now like a small and cozy library. The faculty meets in this room, students take tests and study here. The Division is most appreciative to Dr. John Hafner for thinking of us for this gift. We hope that generations of students to come will find this room and these chairs a nurturing spot to read and study.”

In addition to helping create new spaces for study and discussion, Dr. Hafner has enriched library collections. Focusing his research on Southern literature, Dr. Hafner amassed an especially rich collection on Faulkner, which now has a permanent home in the Burke Library. Involved statewide in literary activities, he also developed a special interest in collecting the first editions of Alabama authors’ first works. Many of these also now have homes on Burke Library shelves. This collection, exceeding 300 volumes, is so vast, however, that it has given a new dimension to the Book Nook. The Book Nook has a new section on “Alabama Authors.” Revenues from Book Nook sales directly benefit the library, so Dr. Hafner’s gifts create a legacy of support for the library, for literary scholarship, and for Alabama’s rich literary heritage.

**Recent Memorial and Honoree Gifts to the Friends**

- Patrice and “Bro” Baur In Memory of Mrs. Miriam Boyle
- Patrice and “Bro” Baur In Memory of Mrs. Jean Anderson

“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.

“Libraries represent the diversity and immensity of human thought, our collective knowledge laid out in rows of revealing inspiration.”

Author Amy Neftzger
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.