



FOCUS

ABAC Honors Its Retirees Today at Reception

Thirteen members of the ABAC faculty and staff will be honored at a Retirement Reception today from 4:15 – 5:30 p.m. in the Donaldson Dining Hall.

Those retirees to be honored include Joyce Cogdell from the Physical Plant, Murray Fender from the Physical Plant, Charles Griffin from the Physical Plant, Jennifer Murphy from the Student and Enrollment Services Office, Ellen Bullington from the Student Development Office, Jimmy Grubbs, Ag Technician in the Division of Agriculture and Forest Resources, Adrian Salter from the Physical Plant, John Tanner from the Physical Plant, Dr. Earl

Bennett, professor in the Division of Science and Mathematics, Dr. Gaye Elder, professor in the Division of Humanities, Brenda Sellers, Director of the Baldwin Library; Emory Johnson, Director of the ABAC Bookstore; and Arlene Bailey, mail clerk in the ABAC Post Office.

Elder joined the faculty on Sept. 1, 1967. Bennett became an ABAC faculty member on Sept. 1, 1980. Johnson began work at the Bookstore on July 1, 1973, and Sellers joined the library staff Sept. 1, 1972.

Cogdell has been an ABAC employee since Jan. 25, 1982. Fender

joined the staff on Feb. 8, 1982, and Griffin came to the college on April 1, 1983. Murphy has been a part of the ABAC staff since July 1, 1977, and Grubbs joined the staff on March 15, 1966.

Salter's first day on the job was Jan. 25, 1975, and Tanner was hired on July 28, 1981. Bailey joined the staff on June 15, 1983, and Bullington came aboard on Oct. 17, 1994.

SAT Is Now Out, Higher Tuition In

At its monthly meeting last week, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved a recommendation to drop SAT and ACT scores as requirements for admission to Georgia's two-year colleges.

Georgia was one of only two states to require a standardized test score for admission to two-year colleges.

Director of Admissions and Registrar Beth Saxon said some high school students have already responded positively to the new rule, which will take effect for the 2005 fall term.

"Some students who have not taken the SAT are now glad they will not have to," Saxon said. "We might pick up a few students who were not planning to apply because of the SAT."

Saxon said all students who are accepted without an SAT score will take the placement tests.

The Board of Regents also approved a tuition increase of \$37 per semester for two-year colleges. Vice President for Fiscal Affairs Floyd Wright said ABAC's tuition will increase for the 2005 fall term from \$734 per semester to \$771 per semester for in-state students. Wright said fees will push the cost for a fulltime in-state student to \$1,013 per semester.



Hail To The Interim Empress!

Bernice Hughes (left) and Beth Saxon (right) spread rose petals in anticipation of the arrival of Dr. Gail Dillard, Interim Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at Tuesday's President's Cabinet meeting. Dillard wore a toga because SES contributed over \$500 toward the Relay for Life campaign.

Fillies Vanquish Field For Region 17 Crown

The Golden Fillies' tennis team of Coach Alton Hudgins won the NJCAA Region 17 title Saturday at the Red Hill Tennis Center.

The Fillies defeated Gordon and Young Harris for the state championship. The team will now advance to the national tournament in Tucson, Ariz., May 7-10.

The Fillies' softball team of Coach Donna Campbell goes for a state title of its own Friday in Valdosta. The men's tennis team of Coach Alan Kramer will be in Barnesville Saturday with an eye on the NJCAA Region 17 crown.



ABAC's women's tennis team won the NJCAA Region 17 championship in action on Saturday at the Red Hill Athletic Center. Alton Hudgins received Coach of the Year honors, and number one singles player Florencia Torres was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament. The Fillies will now travel to the national tournament in Tucson Ariz.

Coach Steve Janousek's baseball team will finish its season on the road in Cochran against Middle Georgia Saturday and Sunday. The Stallions have completed their home slate.

Cawthon to Speak at Graduation May 10



Kaedy Cawthon

Kaedy Cawthon will be the guest speaker at ABAC's spring graduation ceremony on May 10 at 6 p.m. in Gressette Gym.

A native of Jackson, Cawthon is the daughter of Douglas and Sharon Cawthon. She is a 2003 Jackson High School graduate. Cawthon will be one of the approximately 200 graduates in the ABAC ceremony, receiving her degree in early childhood education.

Cawthon was recently named ABAC's J.G. Woodroof Scholar, the highest academic student recognition at the college. As a freshman, she served as vice-president of the Student Government Association, and as treasurer of the organization this year. She is a member of the Cattlemen's Club, Georgia Association of Educators Student Program, and Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Cawthon has been a part of the ABAC Ambassadors for two years, serving as President in 2004-05.

ABAC Alumni Association President Lynn Medford McDonald will induct the graduates into the Alumni Association and assist in the presentation of the coveted George P. Donaldson award. The award, named for ABAC's president from 1947-61, goes to the top graduate participating in the ceremony.

ABAC Cheerleading Tryouts Start Today



Tryouts for the upcoming 2005-06 ABAC Cheerleaders will be held on Thursday. Those interested should attend an information session and practice today at 6:30 p.m. in the Nickelodeon. Come dressed for practice. Practice sessions will also be held on Tuesday and Wednesday from 6:30-9 p.m.

Participants must be present at all practices in order to be eligible to try out for the squad.

For more information call 391-5047 or 391-4853, or visit the web site at: <http://www.abac.edu/pe/spiritteam/index.htm>.

Master Plan On Display Today

One of the highlights of the faculty and staff meeting in the Cordell Conference Room today at 3 p.m. will be Interim President Tom Call's overview of the new Master Plan at the college. His presentation will include maps showing where campus buildings may be placed with an enrollment of 6,000 students in years to come.

Anna Daniel Wins Spring Speech Showcase

Anna Daniel, a sophomore pre-vet major from Jackson, won the 36th annual Lew Akin Speech Showcase by delivering a persuasive speech on Chinese adoptions. Daniel is a Spalding High School graduate who is a member of the ABAC Ambassadors and the Fillies' tennis team.



Anna Daniel

Julie Lawhon, a sophomore early childhood education major from Tifton, finished in second place with her infor-

mative speech on the origin and success of reality television; and third place went to Eve Felton, an agribusiness major from Tifton, on her persuasive speech regarding demolition of the old Howard Johnson motel.

The showcase is named for former ABAC professor and Humanities Division Chair Lew Akin and was established in 1969.

The top speaker from the Communications 1000 and 1100 classes participated in the competition. Each contestant delivered an informative or persuasive speech that was judged on such criteria as content, organization, evidence, and eye contact. Keith Perry coordinated the event.

Poetry on Wednesday



Celebrate National Poetry Month by coming to a Poetry Reading on Wednesday in Conger 319 from 11:00 a.m.-noon. Poets from the campus and community will be featured, but all students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to participate in the reading. This event is cosponsored by Pegasus and the Baldwin Library.

End-of Life Decision Seminar on Tuesday

ABAC will host "Compassion and Caring: End-of-Life Decisions", an informative seminar regarding end-of-life decisions, in partnership with Tift Regional Medical Center and the Tifton Bar Association.

The seminar will be held Tuesday, from 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the Cordell Conference Room. There is no fee to attend. Space is limited, so come early. For additional information, contact the Public Service and Business Outreach Center at 391-5070.



Pool to Open
The ABAC Pool will open May 2. You can enjoy the pool Monday-Thursday from 3-7 p.m. and Friday-Sunday from 1-6 p.m. Free passes are available in the ABAC Business Office in Tift Hall.

Correction

ABAC's new procurement Director is Julie Boland. Her name was spelled incorrectly in the last FOCUS.



Which One Is The Real President?

President's Secretary Fran Kinchen seems to have a problem distinguishing the true ABAC President on Wednesday when SGA President Catrina Kennedy swapped places with Interim President Tom Call. Kennedy attended to presidential duties while Call went to her classes. He also got a ticket from the ABAC Police for illegally parking his motorcycle. He immediately appealed it to "President" Kennedy with the excuse that he was late for class.

Love Affair Offers Array of Entertainment

The 25th Annual Love Affair opens at 4 p.m. Friday in Fulwood Park. A variety of music styles and dance forms will be offered throughout the park to kick off the festivities. The Fine Arts and Fine Crafts Markets will be open from 4-8 p.m.

Local performers on Friday include a Dance Extravaganza showcasing students from area dance studios, resident Derrick Dove playing a variety of rock and roll standards, the Tift County High School Chorus, local band Doctor, Doctor!, the ABAC Instrumental Ensembles, and many more.

On Saturday, the Arts Circus Stage will feature the Atlanta Percussion Trio and Michael Cooper, the Masked Marvel. The Trio has been performing for audiences for the past 20 years. Cooper is a masterful mime and stilt dancer, who creates stories with his handcrafted masks in his one-man show.

The International Stage will host the African-American Dance Ensemble, presenting dances of the African cultures. The Acadian musical group, Grand Derangement of Nova Scotia,

will also take the stage, blending French chansoniers, folk, Celtic, rock, and Broadway stylings. The Blue Mask thespians of Tift County High School will end the performances on the International Stage.

The Jubilee Stage will feature The Dappled Grays, a bluegrass band from Atlanta. *Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine* hailed them as a progressive, polished, and passionate group. Other performances on the Jubilee Stage include numerous clogging groups from the south Georgia area.

The Gallery Stage will spotlight two solo performers for this year's event. Vishvas Kulharni, from Mumbai, India, will play the Indian flute bringing music from his homeland. He is a visiting scientist at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station. Also featured will be Jim McGraw, a favorite of Love Affair patrons, who plays the hammered dulcimer. He is the founder of The New Vinton County Frogwhompers Marching, Singing, Strumming, and Plucking Society. His music has been featured in Emmy Award winning documentaries and commercials.

Doss High Five Winner



Brenda Doss is this week's High Five Award Winner. She is the Administrative Assistant in the Office of Academic Affairs at ABAC.

A comment from the nomination read, "Her efficient and meticulous preparations for Honors Day allowed the ceremony to go very smoothly despite the need to rearrange the seating only an hour or so before the event. For this and all her skill, hard work, and dedication, Brenda deserves a High Five Award."

Doss will receive a certificate of appreciation and a t-shirt from the ABAC Bookstore. Her name will also go into the monthly drawing of the four weekly winners. The monthly winner will receive a gift certificate for \$50, which can be used at a number of local merchants.

Submit your High Five nominations for faculty and staff members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to the Human Resources Office.

Toga Party at the Duck Fountain

Interim President Tom Call led the group of toga-clad employees at the fountain on Friday where the second lucky duck drawing to benefit Relay for Life was held. Winners were Gary Sack \$100, Kaedy Cawthon \$100, Janet Weaver \$50, and Dr. Gail Dillard \$50.



George Scott Day a Success

George Scott Day visitors enjoyed great entertainment, fun festivities, and wonderful weather. The ABAC Jazz Band was just one of many performing groups featured during the day. ABAC students displayed their art and delighted visitors with their creative talents.



ABAC Public Relations

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Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to the family of Pat Messex, former ABAC Business Office Clerk, who passed away on April 17. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

Celebrating Birthdays

April

27 Nancy McGee
29 Marsha Anderson



Care & Concern

Lynn McDonald's son, Medford, suffering a head injury during a baseball practice Tuesday night. He had two skull fractures, as well as some fluid build-up. According to an update at presstime, his scan was fine and the family was encouraged. Please keep Medford and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Positions Open

ABAC:

- HOPE Information Coordinator !
Parttime \$10.20 per hour
(deadline 5/6)
- Contact Human Resources for details.

ABAC Family

Dr. Erin E. Campbell has been selected for inclusion in the 2005 edition of *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. The publication accepts nominations exclusively from students listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, *The National Dean's List*, and *Who's Who Among American High School Students -- Sports Edition*. Students may only nominate one teacher from the range of educators with which they have had classes throughout their scholastic careers. Dr. Campbell was nominated by ABAC alumna Becky Ivey, class of 2004.

Andrea Willis served as the representative from the state of Georgia on the judging panel for the CCA National Cheerleader Championships held in Winston Salem, N.C.

Jo Ann Brannen volunteered for an all day event for Ruth's Cottage, the annual Skeet Shoot held on March 5, to help the shelter for battered women.

Dr. Doris Roundtree, Frank Zepeda, Heidi Lliteras, and several CAMP students participated in a cultural experience at Alhambra Dinner Theatre in Jacksonville, Fla., on April 16, where they enjoyed a Tod Booth production of *Sweet Charity*.

Robert Carpenter recently took the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages OPI test, which rates the level of Spanish language ability. He receiving Advanced High rating, which is second only to a Superior rating. He also attended a workshop on Court and Legal Interpretation in Athens. On Feb. 25, Carpenter successfully completed the English Written Exam at the Administrative Office of the Courts in Macon, which allows him to serve as a official court interpreter in Spanish in the State of Georgia. He also completed a Command Spanish Certification Seminar in Atlanta on April 1-2 and is now a Certified Command Spanish Instructor.



Winning Sisters

Teresa Williams (above right) was the winner of the SPA basket raffle sponsored by **Amy Willis** (above left) and **Janet Weaver**. Her sister, **Nancy Brannen** (left) won the TV/DVD sponsored by the Business Division. Proceeds went to the Relay for Life.

Calendar of Events

Monday, April 25

- 3 p.m.—Faculty/Staff Meeting (Cordell Conf. Room)
- 4:15 p.m.—ABAC Retirees Reception (Dining Hall)
- 7 p.m.—Christian Student Fellowship (Chapel)

Tuesday, April 26

- 2 p.m.—Mayor Paul Johnson (Cordell Conf. Room A/B)
- 7 p.m.—End of Life Decisions (Cordell Conf. Room)

Wednesday, April 27

- 11 a.m.—ABAC Nursing Students Cookout (Pavilion)
- 7 p.m.—Ms. Stallion Pageant (Dining Hall)
- 7 p.m.—Christian Student Fellowship (Chapel)

Thursday, April 28

- 11 a.m.—Board of Regents Facilities Meeting/Lunch (Magnolia Room)
- 7 p.m.—Circle K Spring Banquet (Magnolia Room)

Friday, April 29

Today—Love Affair

Saturday, April 30

Today—Love Affair

Sunday, May 1

Today—Love Affair

Monday, May 2

- 7 a.m.—TCHS AP Testing (Cordell Conf. Room A)
- 6 p.m.—Tifton-Tift Co Arts Council (Cordell Conf. Room A)