



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Celebrate ABAC Activities Begin This Friday

Alumni, students and friends of ABAC will come together on the campus on Friday and Saturday for the annual Celebrate ABAC alumni weekend.

The festivities will kick off on Friday with the Golden Alumni Luncheon in the Health Sciences building. Members of the Class of 1960 and all those alumni who attended prior to that date are invited to visit with friends during the luncheon.

A memorial service will be held at the Chapel of All Faiths at 4:30 p.m. to honor ABAC alumni, students and faculty and staff who have passed away, as well as to recognize those in military service.

Alumni can help celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the continuing education program, now called Public Service and Business Outreach (PSBO) with the "Whoa Back With ABAC" event at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. This will be a full bar-beque meal with students in the Donaldson Dining Hall.

Immediately following the dinner, join former students for club reunions. Some of those student organizations who will meet are the Ambassadors, Family and Consumer Sciences alumni, CAMP, SGA, and Ag Clubs.

On Saturday, ABAC's Jazz Choir will begin the day with a mini-concert from 9:30 - 10 a.m. in Howard Auditorium. The annual ABAC Alumni Association awards ceremony will follow at 10 a.m. in the same location. Former ABAC students will be honored for achievements in a variety of fields including education, agriculture, business, and health care.

At noon, the Athletics Hall of Fame Lunch and Induction Ceremony will take place at the Athletics Complex. Inductees include the 1991 Champion Softball Team, Joseph Grist, Harley Klepfer, Jim Sparks, and Thomas "Boo" Weekley.

The Alumni Luncheon will also be held at noon in the Donaldson Dining

Hall. The Ag and Family and Consumer Sciences Luncheon will take place in the Ag Sciences building from noon - 1:30 p.m.

From 1 - 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, alumni will have the opportunity to take a tour of the campus or attend a class with "Forever a Student". Both activities are free of charge. For participants who would rather take to the links, ABAC's Forest Lakes Golf Course will be open for play at a cost of \$15. Each evening, the Baldwin Players will perform "An Evening of Storytelling" at 7:30 p.m. in Conger 319.

Children are welcome to participate in Celebrate as well. On Saturday, a Kids College program will offer fun for those future Stallions who are ages 5-12. Science experiments, arts and crafts and other activities will be available. A Fillies softball doubleheader will begin

at 3 p.m. against Central Florida at Fillies Field. Celebrate ABAC will conclude with "An Evening For ABAC", benefitting dollars for scholars, at 6:30 p.m. at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center.

"An Evening for ABAC" includes a dinner with entertainment from the ABAC Jazz Band and ABAC Jazz Choir from 6:30 - 10 p.m. Proceeds from the \$125 per person event go toward student scholarships. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible. This event is ABAC's premiere student scholarship fundraiser and was formerly known as "Dollars for ABAC Scholars."

For more information on Celebrate ABAC, interested persons can contact the Office of College Advancement at (229) 391-4900 or visit the web site at [www.abac.edu/celebrateabac](http://www.abac.edu/celebrateabac).

### ABAC Students Donated \$600 to American Red Cross to Benefit Haitian Recovery

Through the diligent work of ABAC club members, students collected \$600 to donate to the American Red Cross. Thanks to everyone on campus who supported this admirable cause.



### Ray Speaks at ABAC for Black History Month

Carl Ray, noted playwright and performer of the influential "A Killing in Choctaw", spoke on Feb. 24. as a part of Black History Month at ABAC.

Ray wrote "A Killing in Choctaw" based on his life growing up in Alabama and the tragic incident in 1962 that changed his life. Ray was beaten severely and his father was murdered in front of him because he did not say "sir" to a white man when questioned.



### Savannah Brown Crowned Ms. ABAC 2010

Savannah Brown, a science major from Wray, was crowned Ms. ABAC Thursday night. Other finalists included (l-r): fourth runner up Laurel Higginbotham, second runner up Kristen Card, Brown, first runner up Whitney Mitchell, and third runner up Haley Thigpen.

## Baldwin Players Production March 4-6

The Baldwin Players of ABAC will present "An Evening of Storytelling" on Thursday through Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. in 319 Conger Hall on the ABAC campus.

The production will include faculty, students, and townspeople telling stories ranging from memoirs to ancient myths to tales from other countries such as Japan, Polynesia, and Iceland. The American South will be represented, as will the New England area. Adaptations of writings by humorists Mark Twain and Dave Barry are also in the lineup.

Director John Galyean said this production is being staged in preparation to teach a course in storytelling in ABAC's new Rural Studies program. He noted that "storytelling is the earliest and most enduring form of performing art—it transcends cultures, geographical boundaries, and time."

ABAC student Jody Fallin is Assistant Director, with cast members Tom Mark, Dr. Brian Ray, Dr. Bonnie Asselin, Dr. Gwynda Shields, Professor Keith Perry, Katie Jones, Michelle North, Ayana Perryman, Eric Pansen, and Jamil Williams. Asselin was listed in last week's FOCUS as a community member. She is also a faculty member.

The production is a part of the Celebrate ABAC alumni weekend. A reunion of ABAC alumni who have participated in the theatre program will be held after the March 5 performance.

Admission is free to ABAC students, faculty and staff. There is a \$5 admission charge for all others.

The house will open at 7 p.m. each night.

## Sine Nomine Singers Featured Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The Sine Nomine Singers from Valdosta will be the featured performers on March 2 in the First Tuesday Concert at ABAC.

The concert will take place at 7 p.m. in the ABAC Chapel of All Faiths. Tickets for the performance can be purchased at the door. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$1 for students. ABAC students are admitted free with ID. Patrons of the Arts and Entertainment Series can attend at no charge.

Valdosta State University Professor Emeritus David Lee Johnson founded and now directs the 24-voice Sine Nomine Singers. Membership in this Chamber Choir is by invitation only. The group performs a variety of literature including Renaissance motets to the music of contemporary composers in-



cluding Daniel Gawthrop, Morten Lauridsen, and David N. Childs. Selections at the March 2 concert will include "Mary Had Baby," "Bright Journeys,"

"In His Care-O," and others. The "Bright Journeys" piece features three movements which make use of imagery of the changing light of morning, noon, and dusk as metaphors for the growth of a love through youth, maturity, and old age.

The First Tuesday Concert Series takes place on five selected first Tuesdays during the academic year. Dr. Susan Roe, associate professor of voice at ABAC, directs the series. For more information, contact Roe at (229) 391-4943.

## US Navy Sea Chanters Performing Free Tonight

Join the ABAC Arts Connection tonight at 7 p.m. at the Turner County Civic Center in Ashburn for an evening of inspiring music by one of the nation's premiere choruses, the United States Navy Sea Chanters. Tickets are free but you must get your tickets in advance by calling 391-4820. This group has played a significant role in times of both national tragedy and triumph, appearing as a part of presidential inaugurations, funerals and memorials of great leaders such as President Gerald Ford and the astronauts of the shuttle "Columbia" and at innumerable concerts to audiences around the world, spreading their message of hope and freedom to every audience they encounter.



## President Bridges Holds Town Hall Meeting to Discuss Budget

President David Bridges held a town hall meeting Friday to discuss the additional budget cuts required for FY11. Plans were submitted to the Board of Regents Saturday and will collectively be given to legislators today.

## ABAC Alumni to be Honored Saturday

Former students of ABAC will be honored at the annual ABAC Alumni Association awards ceremony as a part of the Celebrate ABAC weekend on Saturday at 10 a.m. in Howard Auditorium on the ABAC campus.

Open to anyone who would like to attend at no charge, the event will recognize ABAC alumni who impacted the college and their communities in significant ways. For more information on the Celebrate ABAC weekend, contact the ABAC College Advancement office at (229) 391-4900 or visit the web site at [www.abac.edu/celebrateabac](http://www.abac.edu/celebrateabac).

ABAC Alumni Association award winners this year include Dr. Paul Newberne from Bedford, Mass., and Dr. James Newberne from Cincinnati, Ohio, Distinguished Alumni; Beth Bland from LaGrange, Outstanding Young Alumnus; John Harrell from Whigham, Master Farmer; Nancy Coleman from Moultrie, Helen B. Sasser award; Louis Perry from Moultrie, J. Lamar Branch award; T. Lynn Barber from Manor, Outstanding Educator; Rodney McDonald from Nicaragua, Outstanding Business Leader; Dr. Jay Phillips from Tifton, Outstanding Health Care Professional; and Ann Hammons from Tifton and Dr. Eddie Seagle from Tifton, Honorary Alumnus awards.

## Early Bird Discount Ends Today For New England

The Public Service and Business Outreach Center (PSBOC) at ABAC will sponsor a trip to New England this fall on an 11-day excursion to New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Massachusetts. PSBOC Director Diane Kilgore said it will be the peak of season to view autumn at its finest.

Participants will depart Sept. 29 from ABAC and travel to Atlanta for a morning flight to Boston. Once there, travelers will explore the historic city that includes the Freedom Trail, Faneuil Hall, the Old North Church and Quincy Market. A traditional New England dinner of clam chowder will conclude the first day's events.

On Sept. 30, visitors will travel north to Maine and stop in the villages of Ogunquit, Perkins Cove, and lunch in Kennebunkport. In the afternoon, visitors will get a lesson in lobster harvesting, a boat ride, and a tour of the Portland Lighthouse before a two-night stay in Belfast.

The scenic harbor towns of Maine are on the agenda for Oct. 1. A guided tour of Rockland and Camden, a gourmet picnic lunch at Mt. Battle State Park, and views of the Penobscot Bay will be the featured attractions with the remainder of the day used to shop and have dinner.

On the fourth day, visitors will depart from Maine and head to New Hamp-

shire. On the way, travelers will take in the White Mountains and the glacier-created valley of Franconia Notch. Day five will feature more attractions from New Hampshire, including the Conway Scenic Railroad for a ride across the Frankenstein Trestle and Willey Brook Bridge.

On Oct. 4 – 6, travelers will take in the sights of Vermont, including a visit to the Maple Syrup Factory, Lake Champlain, the ski village of Stowe, a tour of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Shop, the Cold Hollow Cider Mill, a visit to the

In Connecticut, visitors will spend the evening of Oct. 7 at the Foxwoods Resort and Casino, heralded as the largest casino in the world. On Oct. 8, travelers will depart from Foxwoods and head to the seaside town of Newport, R.I., for a tour of the Bellevue Mansions and shopping at the boutiques on Thames Street. Travelers will depart from Boston's Logan Airport on Oct. 9

The package price for this trip is \$2,199 per person (double occupancy). There is a \$500 reservation fee. An early bird discount with \$100 off the total price ends March 1. Final payment is due July 1. For more information on this or any other trip offered through ABAC's PSBOC, contact Kilgore at (229) 391-5070.

## Serving For a Cure

The men's and women's tennis teams raised over \$600 for the Relay for Life team at Saturday's tennis clinic.



# ABAC Family

Dr. Rod Brown, Kip Hall and students in the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Silviculture classes travelled to the Jones Ecological Research Center in Baker County on Feb. 18. The students actively participated in a prescribed burning exercise on a 44 acre parcel and were given an overview of the Jones Center GIS and how it is used to support land management, education and research.

Lorie Felton presented "Gardening for Your Health" to UGA-Tifton campus staff Thursday as part of their Safety Training.

## Baseball, Softball At Home This Week

The Golden Stallions' baseball team of Coach Steve Janousek will host Tallahassee Community College on Friday at 5 p.m. at Stallion Field. Come out and enjoy college baseball.

The softball Fillies of Coach Donna Campbell will host Tallahassee on Tuesday for a 2 p.m. twin-bill at Fillies' Field. The Fillies will also be at home Saturday for a 3 p.m. doubleheader after the Hall of Fame Induction ceremony.

## A Note of Sympathy

Former faculty member Betty Claxton passed away Saturday. The viewing will be held at Bowen Donaldson Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church in Tifton followed by the burial in Waynesboro at 5 p.m. Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts.

## ABAC Birthdays

- 3 Melissa Willis
- 4 Diane Kilgore
- 5 Kaleigh Cordle
- 5 Kelsie Mitchell
- 5 Otis Wright
- 7 Sandra Langford



The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

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Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at [awilliamson@abac.edu](mailto:awilliamson@abac.edu) by **Thursday at noon** for inclusion in the next FOCUS.



# Schedule of Events

Activity	Location	Time
<b>Friday, March 5th</b>		
Golden Alumni Lunch Celebration	Health Sciences Building	11:30am - 1:00pm
Forever A Student Courses (Friday)	Health Sciences Building	1:00 pm - 4:00pm
Campus Tour (Friday)	Begins at Student Union	1:00 pm - 4:00pm
ABAC Golf (Friday)	Forest Lakes Golf Course	1:00 pm - until
Candlelight Remembrance Service	ABAC Chapel of All Faiths	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
WHOA Back With ABAC!	Meadows & Pedestrian Mall	5:30 pm - 7 pm
Alumni Reunions (select from below)		
Ambassadors	Evans Hall	7:00 pm - until
Goizueta Programs	Hunt Town Hall Classroom	7:00 pm - until
CAMP	Hunt Town Hall Classroom	7:00 pm - until
Golden Alumni	Lakeside Residence Facility	7:00 pm - until
Golddusters	TBA	7:00 pm - until
Music Groups	Howard Auditorium	7:00 pm - until
Ag / FACS Club Alumni	Ag Sciences Building	7:00 pm - until
Student Government Association	Nickelodeon Room	7:00 pm - until
Theatre Groups	Conger Hall	7:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Softball Alumni Picnic	Softball Complex	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Theatre Performance: "An Evening of Storytelling"*	Conger Hall, Room 319	7:30 PM
<b>Saturday, March 6th</b>		
Jazz Choir Mini-Concert	Howard Auditorium	9:30 am - 10:00 am
Alumni Awards Program	Howard Auditorium	10:00 am - noon
Athletics Hall of Fame Lunch	Athletics Complex	noon - 1:30 pm
General Alumni Lunch	Donaldson Dining Hall	noon - 1:30 pm
Ag & FACS Alumni Lunch	Ag Sciences Building	noon - 1:30 pm
Forever A Student Courses	Health Sciences Building	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Campus Tour	Begins at Student Union	1:00 pm - 4:00pm
ABAC Golf	Forest Lakes Golf Course	1:30 pm - until
Kids College	TBA	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Theatre Performance: "An Evening of Storytelling"*	Conger Hall, Room 319	7:30 PM
Fillies Softball Doubleheader	Softball Complex	3:00 pm & 5:00 pm
Evening For ABAC "And All That Jazz" (includes dinner and entertainment)	UGA's John Hunt Conference Center	6:30 pm - 10:00 pm