



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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George Scott Day, Jazz Festival Thurs. in the Meadows

George Scott Day, an annual Celebration of the Arts, and the 35th annual ABAC Jazz Festival will take place on Thurs. at ABAC.

The event, sponsored by the ABAC School of Liberal Arts and the ABAC Arts Connection, is held each year as a tribute to George Scott, an associate professor of English at ABAC who passed away in 1994. Activities begin at 10 a.m. at The Meadows on the ABAC campus with free performances from high school jazz bands from throughout the state.

Lanier County kicks off the day at 10 a.m. followed by Tift County at 10:25 a.m., Worth County at 10:50 a.m., Colquitt County at 11:15 a.m., Appling County at 11:40 a.m., Northside High at 12:05 p.m., Valdosta High at 12:30 p.m., Thomas County Central at 12:55 p.m., Lee County at 1:20 p.m., Lowndes County at 1:45 p.m., Henry County at 2:10 p.m., Riverside High at 2:35 p.m. and the ABAC Jazz Choir at 3 p.m. A Jazz Clinic for the high school students will be held at 4 p.m. in Bowen Hall, Room

100 following the performances.

In addition to the jazz band performances, there will be giveaways, spotlights on club activities, art displays, and great food. Spectators can bring their own lunch or just come and listen to the music. In the event of rain, the Jazz Festival will take place in the Driggers Lecture Hall/Chapel of All Faiths.

The Pegasus literary magazine from ABAC will host a reception in the music building from 10:30 - 11 a.m. Following this event, the Pegasus will conduct its Poetry and Prose awards ceremony from 11 - 11:30 a.m. featuring ABAC faculty from the School of Liberal Arts. Some selected works will also be read during the ceremony. From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., an ABAC art exhibit will be on display at The Meadows featuring artwork from ABAC students.

To culminate the Jazz Festival, the ABAC Jazz Ensemble will perform in Howard Auditorium on the ABAC campus at 7 p.m. The internationally-acclaimed jazz group, directed by Don Coates, has been featured in recent

performances at the 2013 and 2010 National Jazz Educators Network Conferences in Atlanta and St. Louis, Mo.

The Jazz Ensemble has also been on three European tours, performing at the North Sea Jazz Festival in Rotterdam, The Netherlands; the Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland; and at the opening of the Tour de France in England. The ABAC jazz musicians are regular performers at the Lakeside Jazz Festival in Port Orange, Fla., and the Pensacola Jazz Festival in Pensacola, Fla.

The evening concert is a complete sellout at this time. Those persons hoping to attend the performance can call (229) 391-4895 if they would like to be put on a waiting list for tickets as they come available.

The performance of the United States Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors that was originally scheduled to be held in conjunction with the ABAC Jazz Ensemble performance was cancelled by that group due to national budget constraints.

Sporting Events @ Home

As the Spring season begins to wrap up, make sure you come out and support the teams as they play their last few games at home this season!

Baseball: Tues. @ 6 p.m. against Middle Georgia State College

Softball: Thurs. @ 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. against Middle Georgia State College and Sat. @ 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. against Andrew College

Mark Your Calendar for the
2013-14 Stallion Day Dates:

November 9

February 15

April 5



Golf Team Finishes 2nd in Region/State

The Stallion Golf Team finished second in the Region/State Golf Tournament that ABAC hosted last week at the Golf Club of South GA in Tifton. ABAC Golfer, Robbie Johnson, earned All-tournament Honors with his score. Congratulations to the team and Coach Herb Hendrix. They will be traveling to Pendleton, SC this weekend for the district tournament. Good Luck Team!



Pictured (left to right): Coach Herb Hendrix, Robbie Johnson, Clay Degler, Lee Wright, Guillermo Retana, and team captain Chris Rogers.

Two Events Celebrate 40 Years of Pegasus Literary Magazine

Two upcoming events will commemorate the 40th edition of the award-winning literary magazine, Pegasus, at ABAC. Both events are open to the public at no charge.

The first event will be a literary reading and reception during George Scott Day on Thurs. in the Music Building on the ABAC campus. The reception will take place at 10:30 a.m., with the reading to follow at 11 a.m.

Pegasus advisors and staff members will also host a special Ruby Celebration on Friday at 7 p.m. in the Peanut Museum at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture, which will feature readings, book signings, and the official launch of the 40th edition.

This landmark edition of Pegasus will feature a tribute to former faculty advisors Andrea Savage and Herbert Shippey in an article by student editor-in-



chief Angelo Smith which explores the history and evolution of the college literary magazine.

A special invitation to both events is extended to Pegasus contributors, editors, and faculty advisors who have been associated with the magazine through its long history. All members of the Tifton area arts community, which has long supported the magazine, are also invited to both events.

As a student organization, Pegasus solicits submissions of poetry, art, and

prose during the school year and provides its members training in evaluating and choosing submissions to be published in the book. Student editors and staff gain experience in the process of laying the book out and prepping it for

publication, valuable experience they can list on resumes and scholarship applications. For the past three years, student editors have participated in the conference of the Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers at the University of South Alabama.

Pegasus began in 1973 under the faculty leadership of Helen Strickland and Tom Liner, and the student leadership of Ronnie Wheeler, who went on to a distinguished law career. Over the past 40 years, Pegasus has maintained a high degree of excellence as a student publication, winning awards and regional recognition.

Currently advised by ABAC Literature & Language faculty members Sandra Giles and Jeff Newberry, and Stafford School of Business faculty member Diantha Ellis, the magazine has expanded to include high school and undergraduate writers from all over the state of Georgia.

For more information on Pegasus and the 40th anniversary events, visit the ABAC website at www.abac.edu/academics/schools/liberal-arts/outreach/the-pegasus.

Employee Cookout to Follow Honors Day

In celebration of a successful 2013 academic year, ABAC will sponsor an employee appreciation cookout for all ABAC Faculty, Staff and Sodexo personnel immediately following Honors Day activities on April 24.

A highlight of the event will be the presentation of Service Awards to ABAC faculty and staff who have reached milestones in their ABAC careers. Please make a special effort to attend in support of your colleagues who will be presented service awards.

The cookout will take place in the grass area adjacent to Gressette Gym. A group of campus volunteers will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for your enjoyment.

Please utilize the following link to RSVP by the end of the day Wednesday to indicate if you are able to attend:

<http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/confirm/0zU00Gxa8fKTjOyN68Zc/26bab5f-516bfcc01b343>



ABAC's Wildlife Society "Beast Feast" Saturday

The ABAC Wildlife Society is hosting their first "Beast Feast" on April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture in the East & West Conference Room. The event is a fundraiser for the organization. The dinner will be comprised of a variety of game and non-game species and run the gamut from amphibians, to birds, to a few mystery meat delicacies for the adventurous patrons. The evening will also consist of door prizes and a raffle for items such as wildlife artwork, a shotgun and more. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$10 or at the door for \$13 and children under the age of ten can attend free of charge. Due to limited space, it is recommended that tickets are purchased prior to the event. Contact Dr. William Moore (wmoore@abac.edu), Dr. Jason Scott (jscott@abac.edu), or Dr. Doug Waid (dwaid@abac.edu) in the Forest Resources Department for more information and to purchase tickets.

Ag Awareness Day Success

Many students, faculty and staff took time last week to stroll through the Meadows during the 2nd Annual Ag Awareness Day. All of the clubs and organizations that that were there provided information about a different part of the Ag industry. Pictured: Representatives Chad Abbott and Allison Gordy from the Forestry Club and SAF Student Chapter as they talk more about the forestry industry and why it's important to be informed.



*Come Walk a Lap with
ABAC Relay for Life*



Tift County Relay For Life

April 26th @ 7 pm

E.B. Hamilton Friendly City Park

Join ABAC "Under the Big Top"

Campsite #22

Want to help? Have questions?

Donna @ 391.5016, Bernice @ 391.5129, or Clayton @ 391.4982

Dream Big. Hope Big. Relay Big.

Future Fillies & Stallions Visit ABAC



ABAC hosted 340 preschoolers along with many of their parents and teachers at the Annual Pre-K Day at ABAC last Friday. Rain did not dampen the day of activities on campus. Amy Warren coordinated the events of the day and the ABAC education majors along with members of several clubs and organizations across campus helped.



AAMI Sets Raises Bar for Graduate Numbers

The ABAC African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) celebrates the highest number of students graduating from the program and earning a college degree. Ten students in the program from fall 2012 to spring 2013, have or will receive diplomas. Terence Turner, AAMI Academic Specialist, is pictured above with the seven spring graduates.

ABAC Family

Jordan Cofer, signed a contract with Bloomsburg Publishing for his book "The Gospel According Flannery O'Connor". The book is set to be released March 2014 in hard cover. Congrats on this accomplishment!

Bottles and Brushes April 26

The next session of the Bottles and Brushes art class will feature the painting "Blue Hydrangea Blossom" by Brenda Rose. The class will take place on April 26 from 6-8 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC. Participants must register ahead of time by contacting Huff at (229) 391-5222 or by e-mailing her at phuff@abac.edu.



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

Please submit information by **Thursday at noon** to Ashley Mock at amock@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

Changes to Commencement Ceremony Procedures

Due to growing numbers of graduates and guests, we have out grown Gressette Gymnasium and thus the ability to meet and remain compliant with the fire code. In order to accommodate these growing numbers, students participating in graduation will be eligible for up to 8 tickets for guest admission to the commencement ceremony. This will also ensure that each graduate's family and friends will have equal opportunity to attend this important ceremony. If you do not need all 8 tickets please be considerate of the other graduates and do not take all 8 tickets.

Tickets will be available for pick up on:

April 22 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Donaldson Dining Hall

April 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Donaldson Dining Hall

April 30 from 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Public Relations suite (1st floor of Tift Hall)

May 1 from 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Public Relations suite (1st floor of Tift Hall)

If you are unable to get your tickets during any of these times please contact Public Relations at 229-391-5055. Tickets **MUST** be picked up no later than May 1 at 5:30 p.m.

Extra tickets will be available on a first come first serve basis on May 3 at 4:30 p.m. The tickets will be available at the Gressette Gym ticket window (front entrance facing Davis Road). Howard Auditorium will open at 6 p.m. for admission without tickets for guests to view live audio/video feed of graduation.

Anyone working the graduation will not need tickets; however, staff who are simply attending the ceremony can get tickets by contacting Public Relations no later than May 1 at 229.391.5055

ABAC Birthdays

15 Kris Liebegott

17 Betty McCorvey

18 Jeannie Paulk

21 Keisha Spears

