Barn Quilt Day March 29 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture

TIFTON—The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will host Barn Quilt Day at 2 p.m. on March 29. Barn Quilt Day will include the dedication of the Wiregrass Barn Quilt, which was created by the Wiregrass Quilters’ Guild. The barn quilt features the “Churn Dash” pattern, a common quilt pattern in the Wiregrass area in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Polly Huff, the Museum’s assistant director and curator, said barn quilts are painted quilt squares traditionally painted on boards and then mounted on a barn. The history of the American Barn Quilt can be traced back almost 300 years to the arrival of immigrants from Germany, Austria and the Netherlands. It is widely believed that barn painting/quilting originated in Pennsylvania with these immigrants.

The quilt will hang on the Museum’s Wiregrass Opry shelter. To celebrate this event, the Museum will host an ice cream social for all the quilters who were involved in the project. An original fabric quilt made by the Guild and featuring the same pattern as the barn quilt will be
permanently placed somewhere on site, and visitors will use various clues to find it. Quilters from the Guild will get free admission that day with their valid Guild membership card.

The week following the Barn Quilt dedication will be full of events including the opening of a new Quilt Exhibit at the Gallery featuring Sue Turnquist, the 2013 American Legacy Viewers’ Choice Quilter, on April 4 and the annual American Legacy Quilt Show on April 4-5. Also on April 5, visitors to the Museum can attend the Folklife Festival, Spring Flower Show, Egg Industry exhibit opening, and the season opener of the Wiregrass Farmers Market.

For more information on this event, interested persons can contact Huff at phuff@abac.edu.

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