Lincolnton, Athens, Gordon, Irwinville Families to Receive ABAC Award April 4

TIFTON--The Gay family from Gordon, Lincolnton, and Irwinville and the Howell family from Athens will be presented with the 2014 Family Legacy Award on April 4 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College during the annual ABAC Alumni Association awards ceremony.

The ceremony will recognize ABAC alumni who impacted the college and their communities in significant ways. Advance tickets are $30 per person. There will be no tickets sold at the event. Tickets can be purchased from the ABAC College Advancement Office by calling (229) 391-4895. For more information on the 2014 Homecoming Week, interested persons can visit the web site at www.abac.edu.

The Family Legacy Award was established in 1998 to recognize families with five or more family members spanning two or more generations who have attended ABAC and made a significant contribution to the college thereby creating a legacy for their own family and leaving a legacy at ABAC.
Three generations of the Gay family and the Howell family have attended ABAC, beginning with Marilyn Goree Gay (1956-57). Originally from Lumpkin, she was the pianist for Vespers and the ABAC band and a member of the Baptist Student Union (BSU) and Future Business Leaders of America. Her son, Dennis, attended ABAC from 1983-86, earning his associate degree in forestry. Dennis’ son, Will, (2008-2010) majored in agricultural education and daughter-in-law Laura Parker Gay (2006-2009) received her associate degree in education. Amanda Gay (2010-2011), now the Chemistry Lab Coordinator in ABAC’s School of Science and Mathematics, received her associate degree in chemistry from ABAC in 2011 after transferring from Mercer University in 2010.

The Howell side of the family began with Wayne Howell of Irwinville (1959-1960) and Ella Gentle Howell of Fitzgerald (1960). Wayne Howell received his associate degree in agriculture, and Ella received her Certificate of Secretarial Science from ABAC. Their daughter, Lynn Howell (1984-1985), majored in home economics while at ABAC. She was a member of BSU, the Travelin’ Stallions square dance team, and played piano for the ABAC bands. A native of Athens, Lynn met her husband, Dennis Gay, at ABAC.


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