Family Weekend October 2-4 at ABAC

TIFTON – Students at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will welcome family and friends to the campus on Oct. 2-4 during the college’s sixth annual Family Weekend.

To attend ABAC Family Weekend there is a fee of $15 for ABAC students and $25 per person for family members and friends. The fee covers a t-shirt, ABAC souvenir, and food and activities for the weekend. To register for ABAC’s Family Weekend event, participants can go to www.purplepass.com/abacfamilyweekend2015.

Dean of Students Bernice Hughes said the deadline for Family Weekend reservations is Sept. 25 to guarantee that visitors will receive a t-shirt and the Fried Chicken Saturday Night meal. Faculty and staff can attend events at no charge if they wear ABAC colors to the events. To attend the dinner, ABAC faculty and staff should make their reservations with Hughes at bhughes@abac.edu or call (229) 391-5130.

Hughes said check-in for families will take place from 5-7 p.m. on Oct. 2 in the lobby of ABAC Lakeside. Cold drinks and snacks will be available. Families staying in hotels of their choice can also check in during this time. Students may check in for families that will be arriving late or the next morning.
For early attendees on Oct. 2, the Fillies’ softball team will take on the Canadian Futures Team in two scrimmages at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at Fillies Field. From 7-11 p.m., the ABAC Truck and Tractor Pull will take place, sponsored by the AET Club. As part of the Friends and Family registration, visitors will be given a coupon to attend the truck pull at the student price of $10.

From 10 a.m.-noon on Oct. 3, students and their guests can take part in Lakeside Fun at the Lake. This event includes cardboard boat races, a casting contest, farm tours from 9-11 a.m., horse shoes, a corn hole toss contest, parade of rooms, and Karaoke in the Lakeside Lobby. Refreshments will be provided.

Visiting families can also visit another part of the ABAC campus, the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, which will be open from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on Oct. 3. Students and families can pick up arm bracelets for the Museum at 8 a.m. in the Lakeside Lobby before heading to the Museum. Arm bracelets must be worn to enter.

The grounds of the Museum include a traditional farm community of the 1870s, the 1890s progressive farmstead, a rural town, the National Peanut Complex, and the Museum of Agriculture Center. Over 35 structures have been relocated to the 95-acre site and faithfully restored or preserved. Costumed interpreters explain and demonstrate the life-style and activities of this time in Georgia’s history.

Students and their families will enjoy lunch in the Lakeside Lobby from noon-1 p.m. on Oct. 3. The meal is sponsored by the ABAC Staff Forum. For those into athletics, the Stallions will play a baseball doubleheader scrimmage against South Georgia State at 1 p.m. Families who plan to attend the scrimmage are advised to bring lawn chairs and blankets to the game.
A terrific meal winds up the day at 6 p.m. on Oct. 3 when the Donaldson Dining Hall presents Fried Chicken Saturday Night. The dinner is a variation on the famous Fried Chicken Thursday event the students enjoy each week. Bingo with an ABAC twist will follow the meal.

On Oct. 4, families can worship with their student at any of the local churches in Tifton before returning home. For more information on ABAC’s Family Weekend, interested persons can contact Hughes at bhughes@abac.edu.

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