
Community Archives - Turner Center for the Arts Collection

CA/007-02-bx001-f012

1997

Turner Center Box 1, Folder 12 1997

Turner Center for the Arts

For this and additional works see: [Vtext - Scholarly Texts and Research at Valdosta State University](#)

UUID: 9CFC1FF7-7773-4899-81B5-6172221C79F9

Recommended Citation:

Turner Center for the Arts. "Turner Center Box 1, Folder 12 1997." *Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection*, Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections, Valdosta, Georgia. <https://hdl.handle.net/10428/7116>

This item is part of the *Community Archives: Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection* at Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. Physical and intellectual rights are reserved by the Turner Center. Physical materials were loaned to Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections for the purposes of digital preservation. The digital items here are part of an online collection only. If you have any questions or concerns contact archives@valdosta.edu

The Valdosta Daily Times

That's entertainment

Art reception Monday

VALDOSTA — Valdosta/Lowndes Arts Center will host a reception Monday for Lawrence Tobe of Quitman, Bea Roberts of Belleair, Fla., and Valdosta State University senior P.L. Bullard who are showing their works through July 3.

The reception, from 5-7 p.m., is open to the public at no charge. The arts center is located at 1204 N. Patterson St.

Works By Quitman And Valdosta Painters To Be Displayed

Special To The Mailbox Post

"Recent Paintings" by Lawrence Tobe and "Secrets" by Bea Roberts will be the featured art exhibit in the Main Galleries of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission in June.

The opening reception will be held 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. June 2. The event will be free to the public.

Tobe, a well-known Florida artist who recently moved to Quitman, received a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Arts Degree from the University of Louisville in painting.

Besides being an artist and teacher, Tobe has a wide area of interests ranging from a collection of rare trop-

ical trees to travel throughout the world. Some of his most recent trips, with his wife Sandy, have been to Peru and Guatemala, areas that influence his ideas and symbols for his large contemporary works of brilliant colors and designs.

Bea Roberts of Belleair, Fla. and Valdosta exhibits her luminous eclectic paintings, which capture the spell of abstraction and realism. Her abstract, non-representational and realistic compositions are in acrylics, oils and pastels and have been in shows from Colorado to St. Petersburg, Fla.

"A painting starts in one direction, and as the mind and hand wander and "wonders" evolve in a direction all



▲ "The Gift" Bea Roberts
27"x34" • Acrylic/Pastel

◀ "Palms" Lawrence Tobe
4'x8' • Acrylic

their own, it's almost as though the painting points the way," Ms. Roberts said

The galleries, at 1204 N. Patterson St., are open and always free to the public 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays with ample parking space in the rear of the building.

Group tours are encouraged. For further information, call 247-2787.

Leisure



Bea Roberts

Arts Center featuring Florida artists



'Canal' by Bea Roberts



The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center is featuring the art work of Lawrence Tobe of Quitman and Bea Roberts of Valdosta and Belleair, Fla., both accomplished artists.

"Maybe Valdosta's own growing art community is attracting other artists," said Elaine Kent, assistant director at the center.

Originally from south Florida, Tobe works in acrylics, watercolors and wood, and his neo-expressionist paintings have a long history of exhibits and prizes in shows in Boca Raton, Miami, Orlando and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. He draws on abstract botanical patterns for his large colorful canvasses.

Ms. Roberts splits her week up between Valdosta and Belleair. Her abstract, non-representational and realistic compositions are in acrylics, oils and pastels and have been in shows from Colorado to St. Petersburg, Fla. Roberts says that for herself there has never been a question of whether or not to pursue art, she has always found art necessary for survival.

Hours for the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.



'Looking for Spirits' by Lawrence Tobe

Impressions

By Ester Ray Deen



May 1997 Art Exhibit

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission



<u>TITLE</u>	<u>MEDIA</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
20. Day Dreamer	Pastel	\$350.00
21. In Flight	Pastel	\$225.00
22. Victorian Cottage Print	Print	\$300.00
23. Have A Slice	Pastel	\$300.00
24. Geraniums	Pastel	\$275.00

Artist Statement

Art is an expression of the soul, a way of communicating without words. It is a vision and transcender of time and space. It erupts from the soul like a volcano from the earth asking questions as well as answering them. Art is a window to the heart that captures the opposing forces of the human spirit.

Biography

Ester Raye Deen, from Blackshear, Georgia, is an artist who paints with a loose impressionistic style and works primarily with pastels because of their delicate colors and versatility. She prefers depicting scenes from nature as well as people in their own environment. Her paintings have been on exhibit at many shows and juried exhibits and have received numerous awards.

Many private and corporate collectors have purchased her originals. Curently, her work is represented by Brown Ink Associates, located in Fort Lee, NJ.

Her prints and notecards are available in gift shops and galleries throughout the Southeast.

Leisure

The Valdosta Daily Times
Thursday, May 22, 1997



The works
of Ester
Ray Deen of
Blackshear
are on display
through
May 30 at
the L/V
Arts Center.

Contributed

Deen's 'Impressions' showing at Arts Center

Ester Ray Deen of Blackshear is having her work shown in the Hall Gallery at the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center at 1204 N. Patterson St.

Ms. Deen paints in a loose impressionistic style and works primarily with pastels because of their delicate colors and versatility. Many private and corporate collectors have purchased her originals, and her work is represented by Brown Ink Associates, located in Fort Lee, N.J.

Ms. Deen's exhibit will be up until May 30. All shows are free and open to the public. For more information, call 247-ARTS.



The Tenth Annual First State Bank Art Show Now Under Way

By Elizabeth Rankin Scott

Mailbox Post Staff Writer

The Tenth Annual First State Bank Art Show was to open with a gala reception for artists and guests Monday. Art work in the show will be on display at the bank's main office at 527 N. Patterson St. until April 30.

"This is by all means the best show ever.

The quality of art continues to get better every year," said Elaine Kent, assistant director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Art Commission (LVAC).

More than 260 paintings, sculptures and mixed media were to be unveiled at the candlelight reception. Although much of the art work was donated by artists from Valdosta, pieces from all over the country were contributed.

Artists said they enjoyed being around each other and sharing each other's work amidst the backdrop of food and flowers.

The reception was organized by Ann Norris and decorated by Pam Scruggs and Party Pizzazz. Valdosta State University's string group provided music and catering was done by Ah.... David.

Proceeds from the show benefited LVAC.

Winners in each category will be awarded \$2,500 in prizes at a reception on May 5 at the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission Center at 1204 N. Patterson St.

Art will be judged and juried by artists John C. Schmidt of Savannah and Hank Fleck of Tallahassee, Fla.

Schmidt is currently art coordinator of the art and music Department at Atlantic State University in Savannah.



Photo By Elizabeth Rankin Scott

One of many: "Mantle," a painting by Valdosta State University student Ted Sauls, is one of the numerous works of art to be displayed at First State Bank and Trust Co.'s annual art show which started this week.

He has taught art on all grade levels since 1962 and has served as adviser of the fine arts gallery of Armstrong State College.

Schmidt has been curator advis-

er for at least 55 exhibitions. His own works of art hang in 30 private collections including the Rockwell Corp., Telecom AT&T and Armstrong State College.

Fleck is an award-winning representational impressionist.

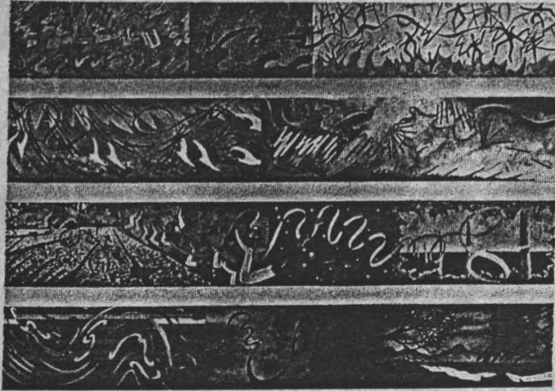
A workshop teacher himself, he has studied with several nationally known artists including William Schultz, Daniel Green and Albert Handel.

Fleck is a signature artist with the Pastel Society of North Florida and Fort Walton Beach.

The best of this year's show will hang at LVAC until May 29.

Three Friends - Two Generations

March 31, 1997 through May 2, 1997 Art Exhibit
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission



Don Pettigrew
Butler Brown
Anthony Brown



LvAC presents

'Three Friends, Two Generations'



By Don Pettigrew

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center on Patterson Street is hosting an extremely diversified exhibit throughout April in the work of Don Pettigrew, Butler Brown and Anthony Brown, a mixture created out of friendship and a blood relationship.

A native Valdostan, Pettigrew's wildlife and landscape paintings are very well-known, and he has work in public and private collections throughout the world, according to Roberta George, arts center director. He is a charter member of Atlanta's exclusive Watercolor Collective, and his awards include the Governor's Artist of Excellence, the Georgia Wildlife Competition, the Federal Duck Stamp Collection and the National Print Competition.

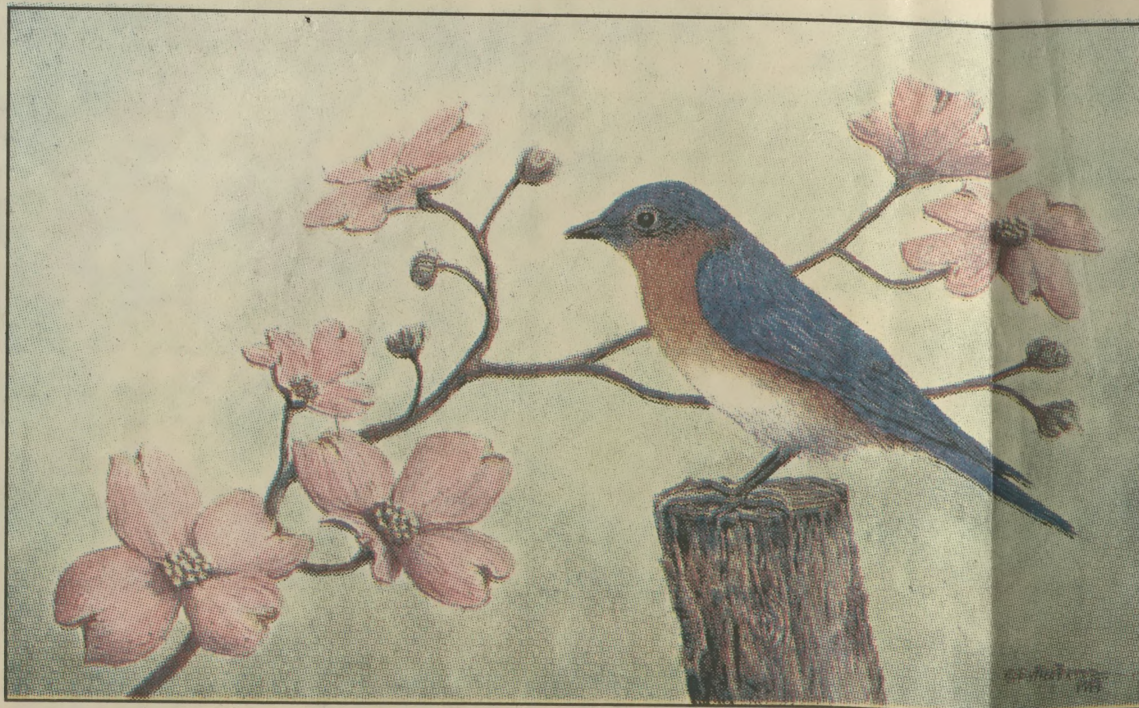
Butler Malloy Brown and Anthony Brown are father and son. Butler Brown's art work is a favorite of dignitaries: President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, the King of Saudi Arabia, Minister of

Culture of China, ambassadors and senators and private collectors. He also has original lithographs published for the Franklin Mint, the Circle Gallery in New York, and the Shuptrine Gallery in Tennessee. He designed the jacket cover for President Carter's recent book of Poetry, *Always A Reckoning*.

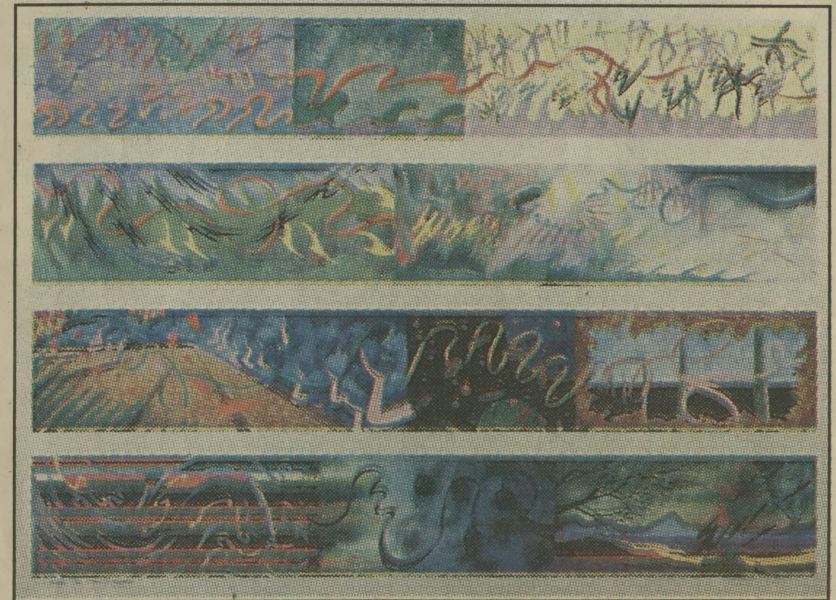
Anthony Brown is an equally talented and recognized artist, Mrs. George said. His work can be found in the permanent collection of the Carter Presidential Library, Macon's Museum of Arts & Sciences, the Savannah College of Art & Design, and in private collections in Russia, Africa, Japan, Spain and throughout the United States. Last year his work was judged Best In Show at the Spring Art Exhibit in Valdosta.

A reception honoring the three artists will be held from 5-7 p.m. Monday.

Hours for the Cultural Arts Center on Patterson Street are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and 2-4 p.m. Sunday.



By Butler Brown



By Anthony Brown



Jim Touchton:
Paintings, the 80's, the 90's

MAIN GALLERY

**MARCH 16, 5 - 7 PM
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**



Cultural Arts Center

Calendar of Events
March/April 1998

Center Hours
10 am - 6 pm Mon.-Fri.
10 am - 4 pm Sat.
2 pm - 4 pm Sun.

Mar. 16, 5 - 7 pm
Main Gallery *Jim Touchton: Paintings, the 80's the 90's*
New York, Hahira artist exhibits his vibrant landscapes and ebullient abstract oils. His work is included in corporate and individual collections throughout the world. This show courtesy of the exclusive Fischbach Gallery in New York.

Hall Gallery *Images In Clay - Pottery by Luana Goodwin*

Presenters' Series *Grease - April 14;*
Call now for tickets and pre-concert dinner reservations:
247-2787.

Adult's & Children's Art Classes, Writing and Yoga Classes starting in March.
For more information, call 247-2787.

Colson Printing Company 35281



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 51
Valdosta, GA 31601

1204 N. Patterson Street
Post Office Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966

For Hearing/Speech Disabled



TT/Voice
1-800-255-0056 (TTY)
1-800-255-0135 (Voice)



Three Friends — Two Generations

March 31, 1997 through May 2, 1997



Don Pettigrew
Butler Brown
Anthony Brown

Cultural Arts Center



Cultural Arts Center

Calendar of Events
March-April 1997

Center Hours

10 am - 6 pm Mon.-Fri.
10 am - 4 pm Sat.
2 pm - 4 pm Sun.

March 31 5-7 pm Three Friends – Two Generations

Main Gallery

Don Pettigrew, Butler Brown, and Anthony Brown exhibit their work throughout April. A mixture of watercolor outdoor and animal scenes, landscape oils, and multi-contemporary paintings make this an extremely diversified show.

Hall Gallery Ben Duran, senior VSU art student, exhibits Metamorphosis. Reception Monday, March 31, 5-7

April 14, 7-9 pm The First State Bank's gala 10th Annual Candlelight & Champagne Art Exhibit and Sale, THE ARTS EVENT OF THE YEAR!

April 3 Stained Glass & Mirrors (acrylic painting) class, 4-6 pm or 6-8 pm four Thursdays in April. Fee: \$35, includes supplies.

New Adult & Children's Art Classes, Drama, Writing, Photography, Crochet, Calligraphy, and Yoga Classes, starting in April. **For more information, call 247-2787.**



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 51
Valdosta, GA 31601

1204 N. Patterson Street
Post Office Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966

For Hearing/Speech Disabled



TT/Voice
1-800-255-0056 (TTY)
1-800-255-0135 (Voice)

First State Bank

Candlelight Art Reception Monday

It's spring again here in the South, and just as the people of Lowndes County can depend on the beautiful yearly flowering of azaleas and dogwoods, they can count on The First State Bank Show to bring in the newest and finest art work from local artists near and far.

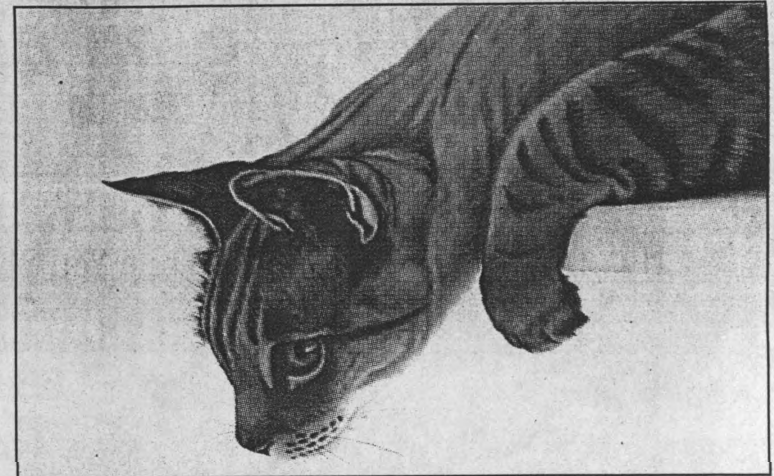
Started in 1986 by Eddie Norris, president of First State Bank, as a place for local artists to show their work, the show has become the most anticipated art event of the year.

Chaired this year by Ann Norris and decorated by Pam Scruggs and Party Pizazz, First State Bank will host the gala Candlelight exhibit of 250 entries of paintings, sculpture and mixed media work. In addition to patrons seeing all this artistic magnificence, there will be a generous hors d'oeuvre buffet catered by Ahh...David! Art, flowers, food and music by Valdosta State University strings will be on the menu! The reception for artists and guests will be from 7-9 p.m. Monday for a donation of \$25. For reservations, call 247-2787.

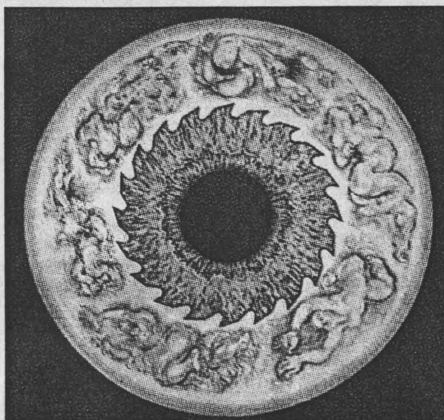
The work will be juried by John C. Schmidt of Savannah and Hank Fleck of Tallahassee, Fla. Prizes of \$2,500 will be awarded May 5 at the L/VAC Arts Center on Patterson Street.



'Mickey' by Ted Sauls



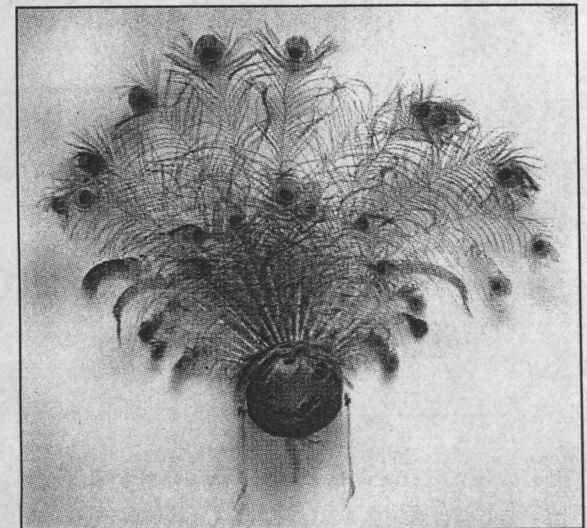
By Don Pettigrew



'Eye Wall' by Richard Duncan



By Bill Hoopes of Quitman



'Dance Mask' by Jim Strange

Photos by Mike Tanner

YOUTH ART MONTH

Student Exhibit
March, 1997



Ray Stephenson

Artist Statement

Art is a lot like music; there are a lot of different styles and many people have their favorites. Some art is very precise and calculated. A concert violinist may spend months perfecting a piece of music, and an artist may spend the same amount of time perfecting a sculpture or a portrait. Likewise, a blues guitar player may not know how his next solo will sound until he's played it. It depends on how he's feeling that exact moment and how he decides to express that feeling, just as it's true of an artist who has just completed a very expressive painting.

"My Definition of Art"

Art is about decision making, skill, trial, and error. It's about emotions and everyday life, about beauty and balance, disgust and imbalance. It's about having the guts to take big chances, challenging yourself, and being creative. Art is about the love of the medium - about getting paint all over your new tennis shoes or getting your hands stained purple with printmaking ink, or having an inch of powder covering your whole body when working on a piece of marble. Art is about color and texture. It's exercise for your brain and music for your eyes. It's about finding beauty in everyday things, saying something difficult in a simple way. Art is fun; it's a way to get stressed out; it's a way to vent frustrations! It's about training and pushing yourself to your limits, about discipline and breaking all the rules. It can be sold at auctions for millions of dollars, or simply be hung on your refrigerator with a magnet. Mostly, for the artist, it's a way of life.

Influences: I can't list them all because my work is influenced by everything I see and everyone I know, but I have some favorite artists. Some of them are: Marino Marini, Jim Dine, Lucian Freud, Andrew Wyeth, Kathe Kollwitz, Michelangelo, Larry Rivers and Wayne Thiebaud.



Ray Stephenson

Hall Gallery Art Exhibit
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission
February 10 - March 10, 1997



247-6469

Ray Stephenson

Hall Gallery Art Exhibit
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission
February 10 - March 10, 1997

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>MEDIA</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
1. Self Portrait	Oil	NFS
2. Heart Broken	Oil	\$1,000.00
3. Heather	Acrylic	NFS
4. Me And The Moon #1	Acrylic	750.00
5. Me And The Moon #2	Acrylic, Oil & Enamel	500.00
6. Me And The Moon #3	Enamel	75.00
7. Figure Study #1 (White)	Paper	350.00
8. Figure Study #2 (Blue)	Paper	250.00
9. Untitled (Painting)	Oil	300.00
10. Untitled (Sculpture)	Marble/Mahogany	7,000.00
12. Untitled (Framed Colograph)	Colograph	300.00
13. Jimi	Lithograph	50.00
14. Chains And Things	Pen & Ink/Graphite	150.00
15. Wire Horse	Pencil	50.00
16. Untitled (Etching)	Intaglio Etching	NFS
17. Airhead	Colored Pencils	200.00
18. Guitar Solo	Oil	200.00

Page Two
Ray Stephenson Exhibit

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>MEDIA</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
19. Papa Stephenson	Oil	NFS
20. Papa Knight	Oil	NFS
21. In The Dark	Oil	250.00
22. Brainstorm	Colored Pencil	250.00
23. Outside McKinney's Barbershop	Pen & Ink	150.00
24. Untitled (Unframed Print)	Colograph	75.00
25. Sun	Monoprint	75.00

About The Artist

Ray Stephenson is a 21-year-old Valdosta State University senior who is on the Dean's List. He placed first in the juried student art competition, and his favorite media are paint and stone. He's a professional musician who sings and plays the guitar and teaches guitar lessons at M & M Music in Valdosta on Norman Drive.

* * * * *

WHO WON????

May 5 from 5-7PM, artists and art lovers will meet at the L/VAC Center for the reception of the Best of the First State Bank Show to see who won Best In Show and four places in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional work. Hank Fleck of Havana, Florida, and Dr. John Schmidt of Savannah, Georgia, spent four hours one Sunday afternoon on May 4th, jurying in eighty-one pieces. "Selecting and awarding prizes is a strange, interesting, and difficult business," said Roberta George, Director of L/VAC, who followed the judges around and listened to their comments. "Jurying and judging a show is so individual. With another two judges, I'm sure the outcome would be completely different. Artists just have to remember that the real joy of art is in the making and not in the prize."



Pictured L - R: Wilby Coleman, Roberta George, Eddie Norris, David Clyatt, Ann Norris

"SPRING INTO ART" Candlelight Reception Was an Evening to Remember

On April 14, approximately 130 exhibiting artists and 300 guests entered under a 30-foot archway (made of helium filled balloons in a rainbow of colors), that flanked the entrance to The First State Bank. The arch made the statement that something wonderful was about to happen! Later on that evening Eddie Norris was seen with arms outstretched jokingly saying, "It's bigger than MacDonald's, and there were more than a billion served!"

Just inside the doorway, floral arrangements and more than a dozen, lush, ten-foot ficus plants filled with soft, white, lights beckoned guests to "come on in". Several couples were seen swaying to the romantic chamber music of the VSU String Quartet. Led by Patricia Nulte, the group said, "We look forward so much to this event... We can't believe we get in free and get paid to enjoy ourselves too! We'll be happy to do it again next year!"

A work of art in itself, the food, catered by Ahh...David! was a culinary delight. Amidst large cherub vases filled with sunflowers, sat the smoked blue herring, roast beef, pasta salad, chicken salad, sliced ham, pickled vegetable salad, baked brie, selections of international cheeses, crackers and bread, marinated vegetables (artichokes, asparagus, and mushrooms), and tartlet shells with lemon curd strawberries and whipped cream. The wine and tea were served in colorful artistic, hand-blown glasses.

"I've never witnessed such enthusiasm, and sheer joy from so many artists and guests on any occasion. I'm more in awe of the people than the art. We can't get one-fourth this crowd!" said Diane Rabideau-Wise, exhibiting artist from Jacksonville, Florida, as she wandered through the Bank in amazement.

The day after the reception, she sat in the office of the Arts Center asking for some insight on how to get Macon people involved, and those same comments came from Jackie Ivey-Weaver, another well-known artist who had art in the exhibit. "We can't get nearly the crowd to come out to any of our art openings like L/VAC had at the First State Bank Reception!"

The artwork (280 pieces this year, and better than ever before), started selling immediately. "It was truly an evening to remember, and I would like to thank some of those responsible for the occasion." said Ann Norris, Organizational Committee Chairman. "They are as follows: My Planning Committee (Margaret Mittiga, Mary Crane, Gloria Price, and Pam Scruggs); Ahh...David!, (caterers); Pam Scruggs, (decorator); Joe Glenn Smith, and Pam Scurggs (for hanging the show); Eddie Norris, Maggie Davis, and the First State Bank staff; and many of the Arts Center volunteers, Chaired by Lucille White. There were many individual and corporate sponsors (too numerous to list) including other local banks and financial institutions, proving that dedication to the arts was the reason for the evening."

Art Talk

Arts Commission History Stretches Back to 1960's

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission can trace its history of providing artistic and cultural programs to the community back to 1962, when Arts, Inc., was formed by Mrs. Harry (Catherine) Mixon, the organization's first president. This non-profit group was formed to promote the fine arts in Lowndes County with a board of directors just like the current L/VAC, group which functions under the Chairmanship of Margaret Mittiga.

Arts, Inc., did more than just bring art exhibits and artists to Valdosta, it organized a children's symphony with violins and other stringed instruments using CETA (Career Employment and Training Act) funding from the federal government. When CETA funding was cut back in the early 1970's, the group reorganized as the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission and started getting county funding.

In 1978, L/VAC began receiving funding from the City of Valdosta as well as Lowndes County and reorganized again as the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission under the presidency of Dorothy Pearlman. This group found temporary headquarters in an office building (now occupied by the United Way) loaned, rent free, by First State Bank and situated across the street from the bank. Mrs. Pearlman with a bachelor of science degree from VSC worked at both Lowndes and Valdosta High Schools, teaching theatre arts and choral music. She has been associated with the L/VAC since 1972, and remains to this day one of the Center's most influential members, functioning this year as a member of the Board of Directors and President of the Cultural Arts Guild.

..... Just Look How Far We've Come!

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission and the Fine Arts found a home in Valdosta in 1989. Wade Coleman, Attorney at Law, Eddie Norris, President and Chief Executive of The First State Bank, Kenneth T. Rickett, Architect, and Dorothy Pearlman, Chairman of the Arts Commission joined forces when they learned that the American Turpentine Farmer's Association Building, 1204 N. Patterson St., was for sale. Dorothy Pearlman announced plans to take possession of the 3,300 sq. ft. building on August 1, 1989.

Eddie Norris said, "The purchase was made with an interest free loan of \$121,800 from First State Bank, and the plan was to pay for the project through private foundation grants and fundraising activities. I agreed to chair the capital fundraising campaign conducted in 1990-92 to raise \$180,000 to pay off the mortgage and do some renovations." He also said, "Catherine Mixon is the mother of this organization. We owe her a great debt of gratitude."

In 1992, under the direction of Burton Bright, Executive Director, the loan was paid off and the campaign funds, given by numerous individuals and major corporate sponsors, were used to double the size of the main gallery and do other renovations.

Now operating at full capacity, the L/VAC Arts Center, is a community art gallery, brings in four major Broadway shows each year and numerous children's shows to the schools, is a teaching facility for adult and children's art classes, and is the umbrella organization for Theatre Guild Valdosta, the Choral Guild, Southern Artists League, Snake Nation Press, Cultural Arts Guild and Quilters Guild.

Roberta George, the current Executive Director, said, "L/VAC owes so much to so many for bringing the organization this far—we're afraid to start mentioning names. But I would like to salute all of you. Your contributions have increased the quality of life and made a tremendous economic impact on our community by providing a place for entertainment and education for citizens of south Georgia. I can only envision more and more good things happening!"

Presenter Series Update

FROM THE DESK OF LENA BOSCH... "If you liked last year's programs, you'll like this year's even better! Contracts are almost ready to be signed, and I promise you a winning season!" Selections will be taken from *Carousel*, *Grease*, *Bye, Bye Birdy*, *Me and My Gal*, *Glenn Miller*, or *Three on a String*.

Ooh!...Education Can Be Thrilling!

Have you spotted that wonderful Pooh bear at your neighborhood school? Julianna Howard, Chairman of the Children's Touring Programs, reports that "Winnie the Pooh" is on tour for the entire week—a total of 15 performances in city, county and private schools, serving 5,000 students. The lovable storybook creatures come to life in this musical production. Pooh, Eeyore, Rabbit, Piglet, Kanga, Tigger and Roo charm the young audiences with their outrageous adventures. Their playful energy creates chaos on stage and brings laughter and joy to the children.

Delightful Pooh and all his friends are the Grand Finale for the Student Programming this school year. Students from pre-kindergarten to high school have met wonderful characters from *Charlotte's Web*, *Macbeth*, *Thomas Jefferson*, *Martin Luther King* and *Pooh and Friends*.

Mrs. Howard said, "The professional children's touring programs grow in popularity each year as the reputation of their quality is established."

Boy!... Would We Like To Have!

(Remember, Your Contributions
Are Tax Deductible)

- *More Folding Chairs
- *Another Computer Setup With Mega Space On The Hard Drive
- *Pretty Serving Utensils
- *More Folding Tables
- *Art Supplies
- *Fax Machine

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Board

Executive Director
Roberta George

Assistant Director/Newsletter Editor
Elaine Kent

Administrative Assistant
Adann-Kennn Alexxandar

Grass Roots
Kathleen Richards

Chairman	Margaret Mittiga
Vice Chairman	Jerry Jennett
Secretary	Katharine Courson
Treasurer	Bill Sineath
Center Programming Chairman	Wilby Coleman
Presenter Series	Lena Bosch
Long Range Planning	Jerry Jennett/Executive Board
Publicity	Bob Harrison
Grants	Bobby Blake, Roberta George
Finance/Budget and Oversight	Jerry Jennett
House Committee	Dorothy Pearlman
Nominating/Membership	Bill Sineath
Education	Julianna Howard

Board of Directors

James L. Black
Dr. Bobby Blake
Thelma Branham
Lt. Col. Rodney N. Casey
Dr. Ernestine C. Glark
Julia Connell
Katharine Courson
Irene Dodd
J. Michael Dover
Blake Ellis
Patti Girardin

Archie Griffin
Larry Hanson
Julianna Howard
Jerry J. Jennett
Dr. J. Stephen Lahr
Margaret Mittiga
Ann Norris
Dorothy Pearlman
Donald C. Penny

Don Pettigrew
Gloria Price
Pam Scruggs
Bill Sineath
Kim Strickland
Suzanne Taylor
Louie White
LaRonnia Williams
Sally Woods
Dr. John Youmans

Ad Hoc Members

Jerry Ellis, Theatre Guild
Betty Smith, Southern Artists League
Marlin Ferrell, Valdosta Choral Guild
Robert H. Haas, Snake Nation Review
Henrietta Traynor, Withlacoochee Quilters
Dorothy Pearlman, Cultural Arts Guild
Suzanne Lastinger, Junior Service League
Wonnie Lefiles, Junior Woman's Club

Madelyn Hightower, Wymodausis Club
Karin Murray, VSU School of Arts
Martha Gibson, VSU Arts South
Lee Griffin, Valdosta Symphony Guild
Louie White (The Duchess), Lowndes Co.
Historical Soc. Valdosta Heritage Foundation
Larry Hanson, City of Valdosta

New To the Board

The Arts Commission welcomes new Board Members, Patti Girardin and Suzanne Taylor. Our readers will see more about them in a later issue.

Valdosta Artists Sweep Moultrie's "Festival on the Square"

Wilby Coleman loaded up his van and took six pieces of art to Moultrie's Festival on the Square. Almost as an afterthought, he included a giraffe sculpture just to have something tall and enough to fill the 10X10 space that Moultrie allots for each \$40 entry fee. The giraffe won Best In Show (\$1,000) for three-dimensional work. Wilby also encouraged Don Pettigrew to participate. Don wasn't too eager because last year he didn't do so well in Moultrie. "It's only one day and \$40," Wilby said. Don won First Place (\$800) for two-dimensional work and sold 4 pieces of art. Walter Hobbs has good reason to be glad he participated in the Show. Walter, who did not know about the show until two days before, got busy and fired a great number of Raku pieces, staying up until 2AM to finish. Walter came away with Second Place (\$600) for his three-dimensional work.

CHORAL GUILD CELEBRATES SPRING

"Honoring American composers with a tribute to George and Ira Gershwin", the Valdosta Choral Guild gave their audiences two grand spring performances amidst an array of flowers and ferns as fresh as the music, with a Sunday afternoon matinee April 20th, and another the following evening, at Mathis City Auditorium.

The Director, Carla Carroll, and Assistant Director, Tony Carroll, romanced their listeners with "You Can't Take That Away From Me." They proved their ability to perform as well as direct. Equally as well received were the ladies' ensemble with "Someone To Watch Over Me" and "Love Walked In" by a mixed men's and women's ensemble.

Accompanists were: Doris Stanley (piano), Peggy Galloway (electric keyboard), Dr. James Barket (acoustic base), and Derik Dickens (Percussion).

The Choral Guild is a community chorus which meets Monday evenings, September through April, at West Minster Presbyterian Church. For further information, contact Carla Carroll at (912) 242-6399.

Southern Artists League

Betty Smith, President of SAL, reminds all members to start painting something for the Colson Calendar Exhibit and Competition scheduled for August.

Hissssssss...

Snake Nation Review, No. 12, went to press this week with Colson Printers. Featured is Valdosta writer, Morris Smith. Her story, "Division" is taken from her short story collection *Spencer Road* soon to be released by University of Tennessee Press. Other writers in this issue are Dr. Manuel Tovar of Valdosta, writers from New York, Tallahassee, and Macon Prison. For subscriptions and copies, call 247-ARTS or buy at Classic Art & Frames.

Art Talk

Calendar

Main Gallery

- May 5-29: Best of 1st State Bank Show
- June 2-27: Lawrence Tobe & Bea Roberts
- July 7-31: Quilters Guild
- Aug. 4-27: SAL/Colson
Calendar Competition
- Sept. 8/Oct 2: Lee Bennett
Retrospective
- Oct. 6-31: Artoberfest
(Theme: Our Town)
- Nov. 17/Dec. 30: Lucinda Carlstrom
- Jan. 12/Feb. 26: Jim Couper
- Mar. 1-13: Youth Art Month
- Mar. 16/Apr. 30: Jim Touchton
- April 6-30: 1st State Bank Show
- May 4-29: Best of the 1st State Bank Show
- June 8/July 16: Harley Hall



Post Office Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966

Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 51
Valdosta, GA 31603

Theatre Guild Presents:
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK
Comedy by Neil Simon
May 15,16,17,18,22,23,24



Exciting Things Are Happening on the Grass Roots Level

H.A.N.D.S. (Home Artists Never Discard Scraps) is a new program of arts and crafts being taught by Kathleen Richards, a new employee at the Arts Center. The program is held at Ora-Lee West Homes and Hudson-Dockett Homes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

H.A.N.D.S. seeks to use everyday castoffs, to create beauty and to demonstrate the wonderful creativity that emerges from women and children who begin each new project hesitantly—afraid of their imagined inadequacy.

The children recently made hand puppets using paper lunch sacks, construction paper, and unclaimed water colors from an earlier project. Scissors, glue, markers, a stapler, fabric scraps, and yarn were a combination that pleased everyone connected with the work. The arts and crafts project began with a very cooperative group of about half a dozen youngsters who, before it was time to clean up and leave, had easily multiplied to become more than two dozen accomplished and absorbed puppet makers. Other projects have been jewelry making, watercoloring, Easter cards and envelopes, and plans are being made for Mothers' Day corsages—and flower making and arranging classes for the women. Ms. Richards and her aides even try to arrive early and help with the children's homework.

The HANDS program uses several VSU students as volunteers. Laura Swanson is a "natural" with the children, who take turns on her lap working on their projects, and Shalina Flucas, who because of her work schedule is unable to work directly with the children and so helps with preparation for the next project's fun. Both women are Early Childhood Education majors. Sonya Kitchens and Adann-Kennn Alexandar are also invaluable help in the classroom. HANDS hopes to recruit as many classroom volunteers as possible since, many Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, the program starts with a class of four children that blossoms into a full house—thirty or more children. Often Ms. Richards and her volunteers stay later than scheduled, but leave sooner than they would wish, satisfied and exhausted.

The teachers are often sad to have to turn away children who are still arriving just minutes before clean up, but have begun to recognize this occurrence as an indication of the desirability of the day's planned project.

With growing contributions of time, talent and supplies H.A.N.D.S. is becoming a manageable reality.



MARGARET MITTIGA



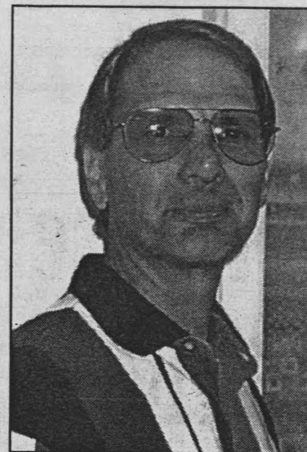
DON PETTIGREW



J. MICHAEL DOVER



IRENE DODD



DR. J. STEPHEN LAHR



ANN NORRIS



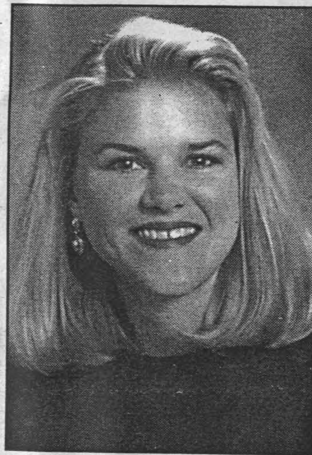
ROD CASEY



ARCHIE GRIFFIN



PAM SCRUGGS



KATHARINE COURSON



JIM BLACK



DR. ERNESTINE CLARK

Mittiga new chairman of Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission

Margaret Mittiga succeeds Lena Bosch in the position of board chairman of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission after having served for seven years on the board.

She is an active volunteer and fund-raiser in the community and also a member of the board of the Cultural Arts Guild. A 1993 graduate of Leadership Lowndes, she now sits on its board as well as the board of directors of Jekyll Island Theatre Valdosta. She recently finished a three-year term as an elder of the First Presbyterian Church and now leads its Steering Committee's Capital Fund Drive.

Other new members of the Arts Commission include:

Don Pettigrew, a native Georgian, received a bachelor's degree in art from Mercer University. A professional artist since 1975, his realistic animal and landscape paintings are included in public and private collections on five continents and from Maine to Hawaii in the United States. His awards include the Governor's Artist of Excellence Award, first place in the Georgia Wildlife Management Area Stamp Competition, finalist in the Federal Duck Stamp Competition, purchase award in the National Print Competition, and numerous awards at regional art shows. He is a member of Atlanta's exclusive Watercolor Collective, which exhibits annually at the Atlanta Arts Festival and is a member of the local Southern Artists League. Though best known as a watercolorist, he also works in oils, etchings, sculpture and mylar lithography.

Attorney J. Michael Dover, is a partner in the law firm of Barham, Dover, Bennett, Miller, Sherwood and Stone, and has served as past president of the Azalea City Kiwanis Club, past president of Valdosta Heritage Foundation, first chair-

man of the Board of Trustees of Valwood School, past president of Brookwood North Neighborhood Association. He currently is trustee for First Baptist Church. His special interests are architecture, history, art, antiques, reading and gardening.

Irene Dodd, professional artist and member of the Valdosta State University Art Department faculty, received her bachelor's degree from Duke University where she majored in psychology and music. In 1967 she received her master's degree in fine arts from the University of Georgia and majored in painting, drawing and art history. Her additional academic work has been with the University of Georgia (Summers 1969-74) concentrating on aesthetics and art history. She illustrated a book by Dr. Spencer King Sr., *Darien: The Death and Rebirth of a Southern Town*, Mercer University Press, 1981, (in its second printing). Ms. Dodd's list of credits includes professional memberships, awards and prizes and numerous exhibitions (both juried and invitational) throughout Georgia and the U.S.

Dr. J. Stephen Lahr received his doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1979 and has taught art at every scholastic level and served as the first State Art Director for the Nebraska Department of Education. He taught at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Missouri-Columbia. Professor Lahr came to the VSU Art Department in 1985 where he served as department head and the Fine Arts Gallery director. He belongs to numerous professional associations and has received many honors and awards at local, state, regional and national levels for his acrylic landscape paintings and watercolors. He also has many paintings in private, corporate and museum collections in the Midwest and the Southeast. Last year, Dr. Lahr was included in the Archives of Southern Artists at the Morris Museum in Augusta. This summer, he will teach art courses at Roehampton Institute outside

of London.

Retired U.S.A.F. Lt. Col. Rod Casey is a graduate of Delta State University with a degree in biology and chemistry. He is also a graduate of Valdosta State University, where he completed a master's degree in public administration. Col. Casey, a retired Air Force fighter pilot and decorated veteran, served 22 years in the USAF, and after a distinguished military career, started his own advertising specialty business in Valdosta. In November 1995, he was elected to the Valdosta City Council. He is a member of Rotary, serving on the board and as chairman of the membership committee. He is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce committee to study school consolidation, coach for YMCA baseball, member of Scouting and member of Azalea City Baptist Church and an Adjunct Instructor for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He and his wife, Deborah, have two sons, Jeff and Hunter.

Ann Norris, a former member of the Arts Commission, returns to the Board after a one-year retirement. She is a former president of the American Cancer Society, Columbus, and was an active member of Columbus Junior League. She is a member of the Altar Committee and chairman of First United Methodist Church of Valdosta. Her love for the arts makes her a great asset and inspiration for her husband, well-known professional artist, Eddie Norris, president of the First State Bank of Valdosta.

Archie Griffin, a native Valdostan and graduate of the University of Georgia in 1955, spent three years in the U.S. Navy. He began a career in the insurance business in 1959 and is presently president of Blanton and Griffin Insurance Agency. Griffin is a sports buff, an avid golfer, and lover of the arts — especially classical music, which is an asset to wife, Lee, who is president of the Valdosta Symphony Guild.

Pam Scruggs, a former elementary school art

teacher, received her bachelor's degree in art education and her master's degree in interior design from Florida State University. A professional member of the American Society of Interior Designers, Ms. Scruggs has spent the last 20 years pursuing a career in interior design. She says her painting is a hobby, although her art has won many awards in professional art shows such as The First State Bank Candlelight Art Exhibit (an annual juried art competition in Valdosta). She is married to Ferrell Scruggs with The Scruggs Co. of Valdosta.

Katharine Carter Courson, a legal assistant for The Ellerbee Law Firm, received her bachelor's degree in marketing and a master certificate in legal assistant studies from Valdosta State University. She has been a Board Member of the South Georgia Association of Legal Assistants for five years and is a member of Camellia Club. As a member of the Valdosta Junior Woman's Club, she has been a member of the Conservation Department, Arts Department, Public Affairs Department and chairman of the Conservation Department. She is a member of First Christian Church and enjoys riding and showing horses especially as a volunteer with New Freedom, horseback riding for handicapped individuals. Ms. Courson, a native Valdostan, is married to H. Byron Courson, a partner of Valdosta Insurance Services.

Jim Black holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia with a major in foreign languages. Since 1969 he has been on the teaching staff at VSU and has been the Director of Auxiliary Services and assistant professor of Modern Foreign Languages since 1980.

Dr. Ernestine Clark, previously a professor of Educational Leadership at VSU, has been the dean of the Graduate School since 1988. She is an active member of Valdosta Rotary Club, Board of Directors for YMCA, Valdosta Symphony Guild and VSU Theatre Guild.

'Just Lena': First woman to own dealership thrives

■ Bosch doesn't see herself as a breaker of barriers, or even as a feminist

By **MARTHA H. SHAD**

Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — The first woman to own and run a dealership in Lowndes County, Lena Bosch doesn't see herself as a breaker of barriers.

"I wasn't the first female owner," Bosch noted. "There were some across the nation. They were few and far between, but they were there. I was just the first here."

Bosch took over the dealership when her husband, John, died in 1984. Although she was not "paragraph third," an agreement between the franchise owner and the company that names an heir, she convinced General Motors officers in Jacksonville, Fla., that she was

going to be the next dealer; that she was going to be successful and that they would be proud of her.

"I did not want to sell his business," Bosch said. "He'd had to work too hard to build it up. I had already lost him and I didn't want to lose his legacy to us. I went to Jacksonville the week after he died and talked with the GM people there. An hour and a half later, the dealership was mine."

In the early years, she sought advice from other area dealers such as Carroll Sherwood, the former Ford dealer, and Bob Mize, the former Chevrolet dealer.

"Carroll was always very supportive," Bosch recalled. "I could talk to him at

any time about anything. I missed him very much after he died, and still do."

Her lack of experience was not the biggest problem she faced, though. The biggest challenge was the employees. They were very devoted to her late husband and changing allegiance was difficult.

"My biggest hurdle was taking over a dealership from an employer that was well loved and respected," Bosch explained. "I wasn't the boss, just the wife. I had a very hard time hiring good management because no one wanted to work for someone who was green."

Virtually from the beginning of her adult life, Bosch has been an adventur-

er.

Born into "a man's world," Bosch says she's not a feminist. Rather she's "a person who happens to be a woman."

"First, I was 'Clifton's daughter' and rightly proud of that," Bosch said. "Then I was 'Jimmy's sister' and justly proud. Then I was 'John's wife' and rightly proud of that. Then I was 'Bart's mother' and ecstatically proud of that. Now, I'm just Lena.

"I've never had a gender problem in this business," Bosch said of her dealership. "I don't think there should be males or females in the business world, just people and that's the way I treat my staff."



LENA BOSCH

ArtSouth Associates Update

Programs and activities of the Valdosta State University College of the Arts and arts events in the communities that ArtSouth serves.

VSU THEATRE PRESENTATIONS

Attention High School Students

Each year the VSU Theatre presents at least one of the classics, and many area students take this opportunity to see a literary masterpiece performed. For most, it will be their only chance to see a live performance of a particular play.

Waiting for Godot, Samuel Becket's Nobel Prize play of the Theatre of Absurd, will be well worth seeing. It will be presented May 4 at 3 p.m. and May 1-3 and 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lab Theatre. The play contains adult language and situations and is not recommended for children. Students-\$4, Adults-\$6, Seniors-\$5, Group Rate (10 or more)-\$3 each.

Unusual Show

The VSU Theatre is advertising *All in the Timing* as a play that will probe your brain at the same time that it tweaks your funny bone. This recent Off-Broadway success is composed of six one-act plays, and *Time* magazine gave it a glowing review. It will be presented in the Lab Theatre on February 23 at 3 p.m. and on February 24-28 and March 1 at 7:30 p.m. The Lab Theater is on the second floor and there is an elevator just down the hall from the back stairs. Prices same as above.

Another Great Musical

Crazy for You, with wonderful George and Ira Gershwin songs, just closed after five years on Broadway; and it will run May 25-31 in Sawyer Theatre on the VSU campus. The Sunday May 25 performance

will be at 3 p.m. the others at 7:30 p.m.

This show will feature exciting dance numbers, as well as the songs "Bidin' My Time", "Someone to Watch Over Me", "They Can't Take That Away from Me", "Embraceable You", "Nice Work If You Can Get It", "But Not for Me", and "I Got Rhythm". Better make your reservations early! Students-\$6, Adults-\$8, Seniors-\$7, Group Rate (10 or more)-\$5 each.

ARTSOUTH ASSOCIATES

ArtSouth Associates was organized in the fall and is composed of women in Georgia and Florida towns within a 50-mile radius of Valdosta. The Associates have agreed to spread the information in their communities about the many arts events presented by the Valdosta State University College of the Arts.

A newsletter featuring upcoming events will be prepared by ArtSouth, and at the first meeting it was decided that the newsletter will also carry a listing of cultural events in the Associates' towns.

The organizational meeting of ArtSouth Associates was a brunch in the President's Dining Room on the VSU campus. There will be another meeting in the spring to plan future activities.

Tablescapes Sponsored by Guild And Veranda Magazine

Tablescapes, the glamorous affair featuring the art of the table, will be presented Saturday, April 5 at the Crescent in Valdosta.

This is a major fundraiser of the Symphony Guild, and it has grown each year as many out-of-town attendees join

Valdostans to view the spectacular table presentations created by talented artists. The tables are located throughout both floors of the Crescent, and a lavish tea is laid in the formal dining room.

In addition to co-sponsoring Tablescapes, *Veranda* sends copies of the current magazine to be given to all those attending. Tickets are \$10.

This year the Guild is adding an elegant four-course dinner at the Crescent after Tablescapes. The dinner will feature food prepared by Martha and Oris Blackburn, whose life-long hobby has been cooking, waiters in formal dress, lovely tables, many created for Tablescapes, and string music by members of the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra between courses. It will be an evening to remember. Tickets for the dinner are \$100.

Valdosta Symphony Orchestra Concert To Feature Pianist, Ruth Laredo

The internationally renowned pianist Ruth Laredo will perform the Mozart Concerto No. 21 on the VSO Concert, Saturday, March 15 at 8:15 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium. The program will also include selections to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Brahms.

This is the third of the orchestra's four concert series. The orchestra has received standing ovations at the two previous concerts. Season ticket holders have purchased most of the seats in Whitehead, but those who are unable to attend turn in their tickets to be resold prior to and at the concert.

Individual tickets are \$15. Call ArtSouth at (912) 333-2150 for ticket information.

Sunday Comics To Be Presented By VSU Music Society

Sunday Comics, on Sunday, February 23 at 3 p.m., is a program of humorous music

featuring singers and brass instruments. This is the second this year of the programs presented by the VSU Music Society as fundraisers for music scholarships.

A similar program on last year's series was so popular that the Music Society scheduled the very entertaining *Sunday Comics* starring VSU music faculty members. Adults \$10.00 Students \$3.00.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR MUSIC STUDENTS

For all musicians and also those who would like to learn more about music, the Recital of Music by Libby Larsen is a rare opportunity. Larsen is the most prestigious American female composer today, and her operas have been widely performed.

According to Dr. Larry Scully, acting head of the VSU Music Department, she is a very down-to-earth person who believes any performer should be entertaining, and she is. "She is anything but stuffy," Dr. Scully said.

This program will be in Whitehead Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on March 1 and there is no admission charge.

Art Gallery

The VSU Annual Faculty Exhibition will open Tuesday, February 18 with a reception at 7 p.m. It will close March 17. The show will include varied media by 12 exhibitors.

The Art Gallery is located in the Fine Arts Building just inside the front entrance. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday. Docents are on duty and visitors are welcome.

Frequently tours by school children are arranged for times convenient for them. Karin Murray, the gallery director is always happy to escort touring students and discuss the art being exhibited when she is available. For information, call (912)333-5835.

AREA EVENTS

2/11-3/10/97 Valdosta, GA
Cultural Arts Center
Painting with Yarn by Annie Green
Info. (912)247-2787

2/21-22/97 7:30 p.m. Adel GA
Cook High School Lecture Hall
SHOWTIME '97
Admission \$5.00
Info. (912)896-4102

2/25/97 7:30 p.m. Madison FL
Van H. Priest Auditorium
Pianist - KEVIN SHARPE
Admission: \$8.00
Info. (904)973-2288 Ext 132

3/1/97 8:00 p.m. Valdosta GA
Mathis Auditorium
Red Hot and Cole
Show \$25.00 Dinner \$15.00
Reservations (912)247-2787
for show and pre-concert dinner

3/28/97 7:30 p.m. Adel GA
Cook High School Lecture Hall
THREE ON A STRING
Admission \$5.00
Info. (912)896-4102

4/11/97 7:30 p.m. Adel GA
Cook High School Lecture Hall
ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK
Admission \$5.00
Info. (912)896-4102

4/19/97 12-4 p.m. Madison FL
QUILT & FLOWER SHOW
at The Mansion
Donations at Door
Info. (904)973-2288 Ext 132

5/13/97 4:00 p.m. Madison FL
AFTERNOON TEA
at the Mansion
Admission \$6.00
Info. (904)973-2288 Ext 132

5/30/97 7:30 p.m. Adel GA
Adel United Methodist Church
THE LOWRYS, Terry Jr., Julia,
Paul IN CONCERT
Admission \$5.00
Info. (912)896-4102

Artist's Guild in Jasper

The Hamilton County Artist's Guild was organized last year, and the members have been very busy with monthly meetings at which local artists speak. They also meet to paint together.

The Guild, with the Chamber of Commerce, sponsored the area's first art show with more than 20 artist entering their work.

This March the Jasper Woman's Club will host the Florida Federation of Woman's Clubs District Arts and Crafts Show. This is a private show in which only FFWC members may participate. Artist's Guild members who are also FFWC members will have works in the show.

Congratulations Adel

The Cook County Council for the Arts board members are busy scheduling their artists series for next year when they will celebrate their fifth successful year. Carolyn Harris of Adel was the guiding force in the launching of this group and still serves as its leader.

Your Community and ArtSouth

ArtSouth was established in 1987 to assist area communities in the arts endeavors and to coordinate the activities of the college of the arts with the people of the Valdosta State University service area.

Martha Gibson was named to head ArtSouth, and in that capacity she has helped organize local art groups, served as advisor to those organizations and to other already active groups. She has helped secure performers for arts series and advised in fundraising. She speaks at civic clubs, women's clubs, arts organizations and government groups.

If you have any requests regarding the arts in your community, contact Martha Gibson at (912) 333-2150.

ArtSouth is the outreach program of the College of the Arts of Valdosta State University. Martha Gibson is director of ArtSouth, and the program serves 42 south Georgia counties and 5 north Florida counties. Call the ArtSouth Office for information about arts activities on the VSU campus and also for information and assistance in your own cultural activities. The office is located in University Park at 906 N. Slater Street.

For Information

ArtSouth	(912)333-2150
Gallery Shows at VSU	(912)333-5835
Concerts by VSO/Music Programs	(912)333-5804
Theatre Productions	(912)333-5973

(Box Office Hours 2 - 5 P.M. Monday - Saturday)

Lena Says, "The Best Is Yet to Come!"

The Glenn Miller Sound Is Still Tops

Now, over fifty-five years since the public first embraced the successful Miller Sound, both the legend and the music live on. By popular demand, the *Glenn Miller* National Touring Orchestra will be performing the second of L/VAC's four Presenters Series Shows at Mathis Auditorium January 20, 1998 at 8pm. Still considered the greatest band of all time, featuring Musical Director Larry O'Brien and vocalists Bryan Montemarano and Julia Rich, the group will entice you to put on your dancing shoes with *Moonlight Serenade*, *A String of Pearls*, *Juke Box Saturday Night*, *Begin the Beguine*, *Rhapsody in Blue*, *The Nearness of you*, and other favorites.

Troy Donahue Stars in *Bye Bye Birdie!*

Film and television icon, Troy Donahue, is featured as Harry MacAfee in Encore Attraction's 1998 national tour of *Bye Bye Birdie*, the third show in L/VAC's Broadway Series at Mathis Auditorium February 2, 1998. Mr. Donahue's earlier successes include the film *A Summer Place* and television series *Surfside Six* and *Hawaiian Eye*. Set in the 1960's, the show is not dated. With its ingenious sets and outrageously bright costumes, the production takes on a timeless, wonderland appeal. While rock'n roll was the "evil" influence in the period the show recalls, there are any number of substitutes for today's kids.

Grease!...

Take a trip down rock 'n' roll memory lane and re-live those high school "happy days" when *Grease!*, one of Broadway's longest running musicals, peels into Mathis Auditorium April 14, 1998. Popular, it's expected to be a box office sellout. So get your tickets early!



"Way South": A Collection of Georgia and Florida Landscapes



*Florida Landscape:
Another Look*

Jim Couper, Artist, Professor, and former Department Chairman and Gallery Director of the Florida International University in Miami, Florida, will be exhibiting his large landscape oils throughout January & February in the main gallery at L/VAC beginning with an opening reception January 12, 5-7pm. His works have been shown extensively in galleries and museums through-out

Florida and Georgia. Selected Collections include: E.F. Hutton Company, (New York), Florida Power & Light Corporation, (West Palm Beach, Florida), Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Art, (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida), Dade County Art-in-Public-Places (Miami, Florida).

Mr. Couper has had the special distinction of painting a 100 foot mural for Twentieth Century Fox for the movie *Lady in Cement* (Frank Sinatra and Raquel Welch) 1968, and was hired by that company as art advisor for the filming.

Art Talk



Dear Friends:

Thanks to all of you who have supported L/VAC for these past years with your donations, your volunteerism, your purchase of tickets and art, and your kind words. With your help, great things are happening in the Arts, and I'm excited to be surrounded by so much talent as I serve as Chairman of your current Arts Commission Board.

Remember that L/VAC is *the* place to do your personalized Christmas shopping. A number of prints are available by artists such as Earle McKey, Don Pettigrew, Lillian Brooks, Lee Bennett... And for those

on your list who like to read, you'll find the recently published book, *Spencer Road*, by our own, Morris Smith. It's a book of short stories and poetry in sequence set in this area. You'll also find The Snake Nation Press books of short stories and poetry edited and published by Roberta George, L/VAC's own Executive Director. If you wish to buy the "treasure of a lifetime", you may consider purchasing an original piece of art such as one of the paintings from the "Lee Bennett-Retrospective" Exhibit which will be open for viewing until December 20th.

As your Chairman, I wish you all **Peace, Joy, Love, and Good Health for the coming year!**

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret P. Mittiga".

Margaret Mittiga, Chairman



Left to Right: Mrs. Harley Langdale, Katherine Autrey, Harley Landale, Harold Bennett, Roberta George

Call To Area Artists

You are invited to exhibit two pieces of art in the "Spring Into Art" Candlelight Art Exhibit at the First State Bank April 20, 1998. The \$30 fee will entitle the artist and one guest entry to the gala reception. Half the show will be selected to hang at L/VAC in May where \$2,500 in prizes will be awarded. Call for more info.

Langdale Foundation Gives L/VAC Grant

A \$4,000 grant, given by the Langdale Foundation, will be the cornerstone of the building fund for the future home of L/VAC.

The Lee Bennett "Retrospective Exhibit", currently on display at L/VAC, is a community venture curated by Harold Bennett, former husband of the deceased artist. Because Mr. Bennett retired from the Langdale Company, Lee's work has long been appreciated by the Langdale family.

Mrs. Bennett was the first art professor at Valdosta State College and went on to retire. Her exhibit of paintings, ceramics, drawings, and fiber art demonstrates her versatility, and is on loan to the Center from numerous individuals from the community. The L/VAC family extends heartfelt thanks to all who so graciously agreed to share pieces from their collections.

At the reception on November 17th, a one and only special edition print of Mrs. Bennett's works was unveiled, courtesy of Katherine Autrey who owns the original "Wisnbaker's Field." The cost of the print was underwritten by the Langdale Foundation and is on sale at the Center for \$50 (notecards are available for \$10).

In the Hall Gallery...

(Reception January 12, 1998,
5-7pm)

The Bridges of Georgia--A collection of photographs by Jean Marani of Sarasota and Tallahassee, Florida, who has been photographing the local landscape for over ten years. Her collection will include all the covered bridges of Georgia (with the exception of one, which is too far in the wilderness to walk). A map of the locations of the bridges will be provided.

And...

Little River Studio Stone-ware by Don Penny, well-known ceramic artist and Professor Emeritus of Art at Valdosta State University.

Snake Nation Press Announces Its 1998 Annual Poetry Contest Winner:

Judith Hemschemeyer of Winter Park, Florida, for her manuscript *Certain Animals*. Contest judge was Judson Mitchum, Poet Laureate nominee of Macon, Georgia. A \$500 prize is awarded each year, with publication and distribution.

Boy!... Would We Like To Have!

(Remember, Your Contributions
Are Tax Deductible)

- *More Folding Chairs
- *Another Computer Setup With
Mega Space On The Hard Drive
- *Pretty Serving Utensils
- *Silver Coffee & Tea Service
- *Nice, Large, Electric Coffee Pot
- *Nice Tablecloths
- *More Folding Tables
- *Nice Stereo System
- *Electric Fan
- *Art Supplies
- *Fax Machine

Executive Director

Roberta George

Assistant Director/Newsletter Editor

Elaine Kent

Grassroots Director/Educational Programs

Julianna Howard

Administrative Assistant

Adann-Kennn Alexxandar

Chairman	Margaret Mittiga
Vice Chairman	Jerry Jennett
Secretary	Katharine Courson
Treasurer	Jerry Jennett
Center Programming Chairman	Wilby Coleman
Presenter Series	Lena Bosch
Long Range Planning	Jerry Jennett/Executive Board
Publicity	Bob Harrison
Grants	Bobby Blake, Roberta George
Finance/Budget and Oversight	Jerry Jennett
House Committee	Dorothy Pearlman
Nominating/Membership	Bill Sineath
Education	Julianna Howard

Board of Directors

James L. Black		Dorothy Pearlman
Dr. Bobby Blake	Pam Elkins	Donald C. Penny
Lena Bosch	Patti Girardin	Don Pettigrew
Wilby Coleman	Archie L. Griffin	Gloria Price
Katharine Courson	Julianna Howard	Chuck Rogers
Lt. Col. Rodney N. Casey	Robert Harrison	Pam Scruggs
Dr. Ernestine C. Clark	Jerry J. Jennett	Kim Strickland
Irene Dodd	Dr. J. Stephen Lahr	Suzanne Taylor
J. Michael Dover	Margaret Mittiga	Louie White
Blake Ellis	Ann Norris	Sally Woods

Valdosta and Lowndes County's Art World Reaches Farther Than Most People Realize...

On November 8, The Harlequin Ball (International Patrons's Gala) was sponsored by the Gwinnett Fine Arts Center. Wilby Coleman's metal sculpture pieces were featured inside the Center and outside in the garden.

The Center's curator, Lucy Elliott, daughter of Gus and Sister Elliott of Valdosta, worked for over a year collecting works from other distinguished galleries and museums for the Center's International Exhibition: "Marking the Modern Era", which will run until January 12, 1998.

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center will be planning a Dec./Jan. trip to Atlanta to take in the Pablo Picasso exhibit at the High Museum and the International Exhibition at the Gwinnett Museum. For more information, call 247-2787.

Art Talk

Calendar

- Jan. 12 Jim Couper Exhibit - South Florida landscape artist
Hall Gallery: Jean Marani/Don Penny
Reception: 5-7PM
- Jan. 20 **Glen Miller Orchestra**-Mathis Aud.
8PM (Pre-Concert Dinner 6:30PM)
- Feb. 2 **Bye Bye Birdie**-Musical Comedy
Mathis Aud., 8PM (Dinner 6:30PM)
- Mar. 1-14 Youth Art Month. All Schools in
Grass Roots Area.
- Apr. 14 **Grease!** Broadway Musical, Mathis
Aud. 8PM, (Dinner 6:30PM)
- Apr. 20 "Spring Into Art, Candlelight Art
Exhibit" First State Bank Downtown
- May 8 Juried Portion of First State Bank
Show at L/VAC
- June 8 Harley Hall Exhibit-Hahira artist
Reception 5-7PM
- July - Colson Calendar Competition
- August Georgia Watercolor Society

Theatre Guild - Dosta Playhouse

- Jan. 22-31 **No Time For Sergeants**, Comedy by
Ira Levin
- May 7-16 **Dial "M" For Murder**, Suspense by
Frederick Knott



Post Office Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966

Phone: (912) 247-2787

Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 51
Valdosta, GA 31603



"As I See It"

About the Children's Theatrical Touring Programs

Contributed by Julianna Howard, Chairman Children's Programs

In October, high school and middle school students revisited the tragic love story of *Romeo and Juliet*. This Shakespearean play, performed by Georgia Mountain Theatre, is a part of the ninth grade literature curriculum, and I wondered just what kind of student turn out we might see. The teachers at Lowndes and Valdosta encouraged their students to attend the performance and sold large numbers of tickets for L/VAC. We had a healthy gate on the night *Romeo and Juliet* was held at Mathis Auditorium for general audiences. It is a pleasure to have the support of the faculties, the students, and the community.

In November, GMT brought us the delightful tale of *The Ugly Duckling*. The characters were appealing to the young audiences, especially Nine Stripes (the cat), the Swan Queen, and of course, the Ugly Duckling. Three students were chosen to become actors at the beginning of the play. With great ease the students assumed their roles and readily joined in the fantasy. An observation I must make is that one teacher had taken our vocabulary list and copied it for each of her students. As they watched the play, they checked off all the vocabulary words they heard used. The teacher had obviously prepared her students for the play and had used the play as a tool and included it in her course of study for that week. Another unsolicited reward came through "a letter to the editor" of the *Valdosta Daily Times*. Mr. Bennett, a teacher at West Gordon, thanked L/VAC for the play and for our help in funding the production for the students. His letter is most important to me and reinforces my desire to provide student programming in our schools and for our community.

Our companies of actors from GMT Productions this fall have been professional and absolutely wonderful to work with. In spite of a leaky roof at Mathis and flooding which wet Juliet's gown and drenched shoes, the show, including the sword fights, went on. *The Ugly Duckling* group worked in such harmony that the stage was broken down, and we were ready for lunch in 20 minutes flat. Personable, friendly, and dependable, the actors brought energy and imagination to every performance; seventeen performances in six days at elementary schools in Lowndes, Valdosta, Echols, Lanier, and Clinch Counties.

L/V Arts Commission adds new members

VALDOSTA — New members of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission included the following:

Pam Elkins is married to Dr. Chauncy Elkins, professor emeritus of Valdosta State University, and she is a Professional Image Consultant for the Association of Image Consultants International. She is on the board of directors of Rotary Club of Valdosta, Valdosta Symphony Guild, Valdosta Choral Guild, and Camellia Garden Club. She is also active in Christ Episcopal Church as a choir member and enjoys painting, flower arranging and entertaining.

Patti Girardin, native of Blackshear, is an interior decorator. She is the proprietor of Patti Girardin Interiors and also a board member of the Historic Preservation Commission for the City of Valdosta and an associate member of the Valdosta Symphony Guild. Mrs. Girardin is the wife of L. Emil Girardin and the mother of four, Paxton, Jason Morris, Kameron, and L. Emil Girardin.

Charles "Chuck" Rogers graduated cum laude from Auburn University in 1993 with a bachelor of architecture degree. While at Auburn, he was a member of the Tau Sigma Delta honor society, and his studies focused extensively on the art and architecture of the Twentieth Century. He is employed by Ellis, Ricket & Associates in Valdosta and is pursuing his professional registration. He and his wife, Windy, returned to Valdosta after living in Mobile, Ala., for two years. They enjoy traveling and have recently been to Italy and France. Other interests include photography and music. Chuck and Wendy are members of First United Methodist Church in Valdosta where they were married in 1994.

Suzanne B. Taylor is an active member of the Cultural Arts Guild Board, working with



PAM ELKINS



PATTI GIRARDIN



CHUCK ROGERS



SUZANNE TAYLOR

the pre-concert dinners at Mathis Auditorium. She is also serving her second year as president of the Magnolia Garden Club and as a Garden Club board member. A native of Valdosta, she is a graduate of VSU with a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

She is the volunteer coordinator for Hospice of South Georgia. She and her husband, Prentice Taylor, are the parents of three sons. They are members of Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

Madison County artist exhibiting at Cultural Arts Center

By DOROTHY B. BROWN
Times Correspondent

Benjamin James Duran of Madison, Fla., will graduate in June from Valdosta State University with a degree in fine arts, and quoting Roberta George, director of the Cultural Arts Center, he is already being recognized as a "gifted abstract artist with talent also in realistic work."

His recent display in the hall gallery at the Cultural Center on Patterson Street has attracted attention and appreciation from the community and his school. The exhibit will continue through May 1.

Duran was born in Northglenn, Colo., and felt his first prompting toward art as a vocation from his junior high school art teacher. He was further encouraged by Debbie Scott at Madison High School when he came to live in Madison in 1990. Duran received the Tammy Lee Fortner scholarship and has attended VSU for his undergraduate work. He has worked at

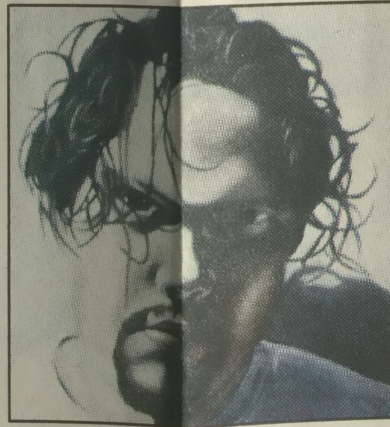
Cultural Arts Center and helps hang shows there. His interest and work at the center has encouraged his work and given him a feeling for the world of art and its process.

Duran spoke deeply and with feeling about art and its power to communicate. "Art is like the looking glass into the soul. It gives beauty, understanding and freedom to life. In reaching the creativity in oneself, we can

feel the freedom to go beyond structure, limitation and create new and better structures."

His ideal would be to work as a creative artist in oils. He said he will probably begin his career in graphic design and computer animation. He plans someday to do graduate work at Colorado University.

Duran's parents are Shelly Agner and Arthur Duran. His mother is a member of the large Madison County Agner Family. They are connected to many families in Madison and have been there for generations.



'Self-Portrait'



'Study II'

Hours for the Cultural Arts Center on Patterson Street are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and 2-4 p.m. Sunday.

Irene Dodd, professional artist and member of the Valdosta State University Art Department faculty, received her B.A. degree from Duke University where she majored in psychology & music. In 1967 she received her M.F.A. degree from the University of Georgia and majored in painting, drawing, and art history. Her additional academic work has been with the University of Georgia (Summers 1969-74), concentrating on Aesthetics and art history. She illustrated a book by Dr. Spencer King, Sr., Darien, The Death and Rebirth of a Southern Town, Mercer University Press, 1981, (in its second printing). Ms. Dodd's list of credits includes professional memberships, awards and prizes and numerous exhibitions (both juried and invitational). Her work has been shown in numerous one-man exhibitions throughout Georgia. **Doddscapes** are paintings and drawings of places she has visited throughout the world.

Ms. Dodd will be the guest of honor at a catered luncheon at the L/VAC Center on Saturday, January 25th, where she will speak about her work. The luncheon is by reservation only at a cost of \$8.00. Call L/VAC, 247-2787, for further information.



Cathedral Woods

Irene Dodd

Doddscapes

January 6 - February 6, 1997

Cultural Arts Center