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Albany Artists

Carol Hall Gum

Janice Ritz Rentz

Doug Wolfe

Diane Johnson

Barbara DeLung

Bill DeLung

Main Gallery Art Exhibit

July 2001

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission

1204 North Patterson Street

Valdosta, Georgia 31601

(229) 247-2787



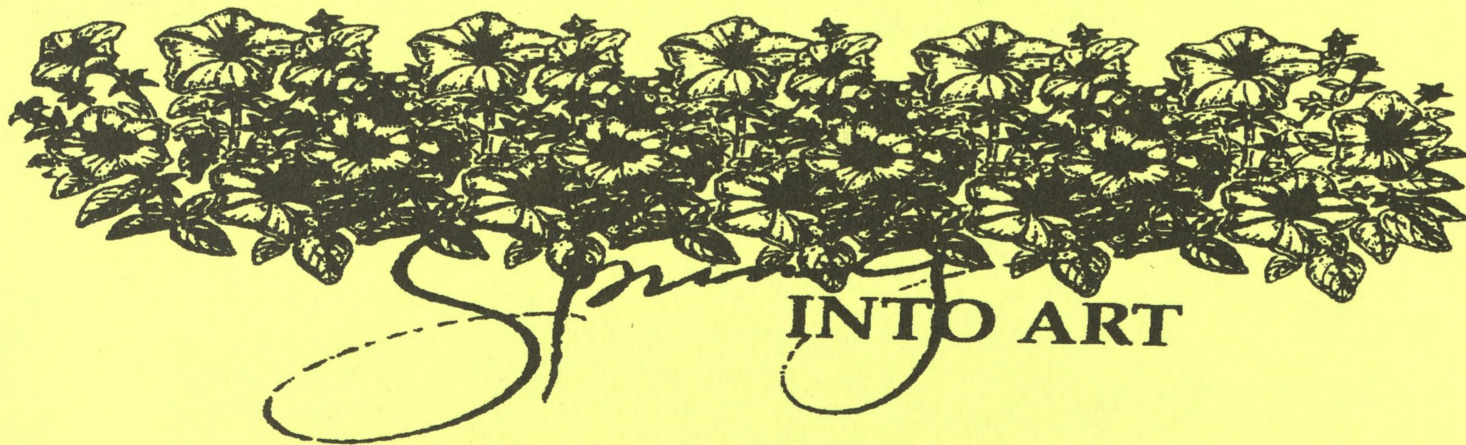
July 16-August 30



Diane Johnson
Belgian Street Scene

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission

cordially invites you to attend the
Best of



May 7 - 31, 2001

Opening Reception: Monday, May 7, 5-7 PM in Main Gallery

Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center
1204 North Patterson Street
Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission
Post Office Box 1966
1204 North Patterson Street
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966

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Valdosta, GA 31603

For more information, call 247-2787
For Hearing/Speech Disabled
1-800-255-0056 (TTY)
1-800-255-0135 (Voice)



Main Gallery

Best of the Spring Into Art Exhibition

Sixty-six pieces of art juried and judged:

Dr. Jack Cheatham, Previous Director of the Madison-Morgan Arts Center and Art Professor at Augusta State University.

Dr. Lanny Webb, Professor of Art at the University of Georgia.

Prizes will be awarded on Monday, May 7, 2001

at the Cultural Arts Center.

Best in Show	\$500.00
1st Place 3-Dimensional	\$400.00
1st Place 2-Dimensional	\$400.00
2nd Place 3-Dimensional	\$300.00
2nd Place 2-Dimensional	\$300.00
3rd Place 3-Dimensional	\$200.00
3rd Place 2-Dimensional	\$200.00
4th Place 3-Dimensional	\$100.00
4th Place 2-Dimensional	\$100.00

Hall Gallery

Colson Calendar Selections

Fourteen works of art chosen by Colson Printing Company for their 2002 calendar.

Valdosta VOICE

Free

Issue 12
Volume 2
JULY
2001

Your Arts, Cultural, & Entertainment Guide to South Georgia

Snake Nation Press is Proud to Announce Issue #14 of Snake Nation Review is Now Available

Issue #14 of Snake Nation Review, a publication of Snake Nation Press, Valdosta, Georgia, will be unveiled July 21, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center during the monthly Open-Mic Night. This issue includes short stories by Morris Smith of Valdosta and Pat Landreth Keller of Cochran, Georgia. Pat's story is a winner of the Porter Fleming Foundation Fiction Award. Morris Smith recently had another short story, "Calculators" selected for inclusion in the *Seattle Review*. Poetry by Charles Duff of Valdosta is also included. The magazine is illustrated with art by Pam Bullard of Valdosta.

Snake Nation Press has been listed in the *Writer's Digest 2001 Fiction 50 list of short story publishers* for the year 2001. This list includes such publications as *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Paris Review* and other notables. See the full list at www.writersdigest.com.

The Snake recently received notification of approval of a grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts. The grant, for fiscal year 2002, will make it possible for The Snake to continue its mission of publishing works of new and emerging writers.

The Press is one of the few independent small presses in the country. It has non-profit status and operates with volunteer staff. It also publishes *The Valdosta Voice*, a monthly arts and cultural newspaper, featuring local writers and artists. Other on-going projects include an adult writers group, young writers group, and the Open-Mic Night. An oral history project is in the planning stages. Snake nation press holds membership in the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses, Georgia Writers Association, and the Small Press Center.

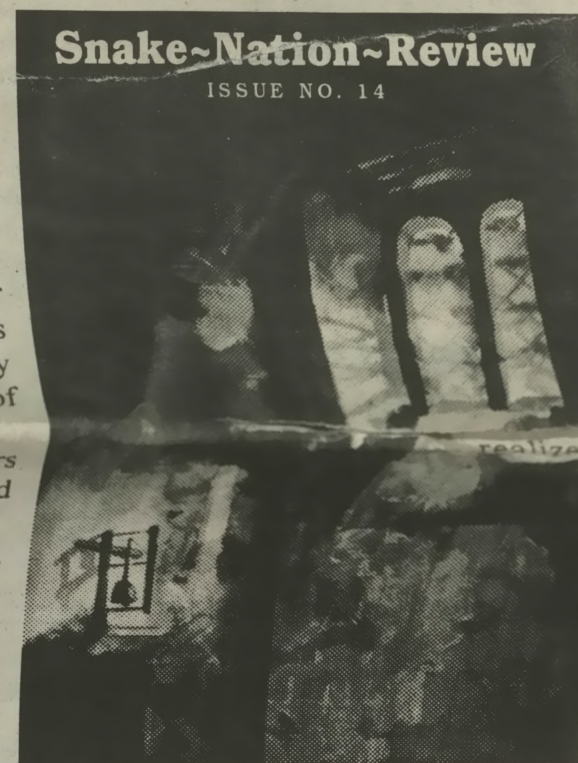
For more information about Snake Nation Press visit the website at www.snakenationpress.org.



Snake Nation Press
110 #2 West Force Street
Valdosta, GA 31601

Non-Profit
org
US Postage
Paid
Valdosta GA
Permit #108

Inside This Issue of The Voice:
Southern Artists' League News Page 4
Albany Artists Show Pages 8 & 9
Horror-Scopes Page 13
Young Artist of the Month Page 11
Country Living Page 12



Cover Art by P. Bullard

July Cultural Calendar

Art Exhibits

July 16: Six Albany Artists Exhibit, Main Gallery, Reception, 5-7:00 p.m. Hall Gallery features lighthouse photography of Dr. Jean Marani of Tallahassee.

Theatre

Call Theatre Guild Valdosta at 24-STAGE for more information on above events.

Events

July 12 Downtown After Dark Concert. from 6 - 8:30 p.m. This event will include live music featuring Dasher Glove Company, a juggler, free soft drinks and popcorn and downtown food vendors. This is a FREE event. Lowndes County Courthouse Lawn, located on East Central Avenue, downtown. For more information, call the Main Street Office at (229) 259-3577.

July 12: NOW meeting, 7:00 p.m. L/AC

July 21: Open-Mic Night

7:00 p.m. at L/VAC, Call 247-2747 for more info.

Classes and Courses

Lowndes/Valdosta

Arts Center

Summer Classes 2001

Children's Art Camp V

Instructor: Teresa Rozier

Children (ages 5-13) explore new forms

of art each day while learning new skills, having fun, and being creative.

Time and Dates: 10 am-12 Noon, Monday-Friday, July 9-13

Cost: \$60 (Includes Supplies)

Children's Art Camp VI

Instructor: Jo-Ann Adams

Children (ages 5-13) explore a number of art mediums each day while learning new skills, having fun, and being creative. (Art Projects will differ from those done in Art Camp V.)

Time and Dates: 10 am-12 Noon, Monday-Friday, July 16-20

Cost: \$60 (Includes Supplies)

Adult Watercolor Classes

(Ages 14 and up)

Instructor: Jo-Ann Adams

Study the uses of watercolors and learn new and experimental techniques. Two sessions offered:

Session I (Afternoon) (Ages 14 and up) Time and Dates: 1-3 p.m., Tuesdays: July 17, 24, 31, and August 2.

Cost: \$55 (Supplies included, except for brushes)

Session II (Evening) (Ages 14 and up)

Time and Dates: 6 -8 p.m., Tuesdays: July 17, 24, 31, and August 2.

Cost: \$55 (Supplies included, except for brushes)

Tap Dancing Class

Instructor: Andrea Maxwell,

Former Miss VSU and professional teacher instructs tap, modern, or

hip-hop dance. Time/Dates: 11a.m.-12 noon, Saturdays: August 6, 13, 20, 27
Cost: \$60

Ignite Your Creativity!

Instructor: Dick Bjornseth

Course Description: This hands-on, four-week course will give simple strategies to tap into your individual creative abilities, allowing you to become more imaginative and original. Times and Dates: 4:15 -6:15 Classes to meet Sunday afternoons from 4:15 to 6:15 at LVAC. Fee: \$55 for four weeks. (Call for Starting Date)

Intermediate Writing

Chair: Morris Smith

Swap work, edit, and critique. Only serious writers need apply. Free!

Times/Dates: 2-4 p.m., Every Sat.

Teen Writing Workshop

Workshop Chair: Maria Arambula

A workshop using imagination, grammar, and discussion for creative writing for young adults. Free!

Times/Dates: 2-4 p.m., Every Sat.

Calling all poets, singers, writers and musicians . . .

Open Mic Night at Cultural Arts Center

Issue #14 of Snake Nation Review will be presented and authors will be in attendance.

7:00 p.m., Saturday, July 21, 2001

Life Drawing Class

Instructor: Dick Bjornseth

Draw, paint, or sculpt live models, Sundays from 1:30-4:00 p.m. Bring supplies and be prepared to work. Call 247-2787 for more information.

Times/Dates: 1:30-3:30 p.m., Every Sunday.

Yoga Classes

Instructor: Roberta George

Stretch, relax, and release your way to better health. Free!

Times/Dates: 6-7:30 p.m., Every Wednesday.

All Classes will be held at the Cultural Arts Center unless otherwise noted.

Call 247-2787 for more information or to enroll. Mail checks to:

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission;
P O Box 1966;

Valdosta, GA 31603

Submit your events to
The Voice

Call 244-0752, or e-mail
jeana@snakenationpress.org

Mail To:

Snake Nation Press

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Valdosta, GA 31601

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Remember When *with Leona Abood*

Big Star Supermarket Burns to the Ground

Just a few more memories of old Valdosta. There were not many exciting events occurring in my early teens. One of the more eventful was one night when the Big Star grocery store burned to the ground. My friends and I sat on the curb on Central Avenue and watched the canned goods pop and fly all over. We could smell the steak cooking and couldn't partake of any of it. Bucky Anderson's Western Auto Store now sits where the Big Star used to be. That left the A&P on Ashley Street as the only really big grocery store in the 1950's. I can still smell the Eight-O'Clock coffee. What an aroma!

McKey was another bustling little street. Mr. Flucas had his shoe shop there for many, many years. He met all our shoe and foot needs and was so accommodating.

That brings me to Sonny Shroyer's family's fruit stand. Sonny was funnier back then than he was on "Dukes of Hazard". He introduced my friends and I to Tutti-Frutti ice cream.

Valdosta Cigar and Tobacco Co. was on the corner, a wholesaler that also sold other items such as watches and clocks.

Thinking back now, maybe my childhood was actually more exciting than I had imagined.

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Dining Guide

Calling All Cars! Calling All Cars!

by Leona Abood

That's Richard Starr's favorite song these days. He had a dream for years to open his miniature car display to the public. It includes all kinds of models, thousands of them. He is continually adding to his collection, expecting new NASCAR models soon.

Starr's Dogs and Cars features hotdogs with everyone's favorite toppings. The chili is a special recipe that doesn't have tomatoes or beans. It is for that true hotdog lover who remembers how a hotdog really tastes. Barbecue sandwiches, chips, freshly baked cookies, and all flavors and brands of soda pop are also included in the take-out fare. It's worth the "Ultimate Ride" to Starr's Dogs and Cars. Richard has realized his dream. It's a great addition to the downtown scene.

More on my favorite subject! Eating! My friends and I had an elegant dining experience at Giulo's: good service, quiet atmosphere and delicious food, with fun people. What a combination! We made a meal of grape leaves, spinach pies and Greek salad. Try it! You'll like it!

"Peachy Kean is still the place for a different desert everyday. Miss Naomi and Cindy keep bringing us the "Sweetest of the Sweet".

VALDOSTA VOICE

Published Monthly by
Snake Nation Press.



This program is sponsored in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. The Council is a partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Snake Nation Press
110 #2 West Force Street
Valdosta, GA 31601
229-244-0752
jeana@snakenationpress.org
Editor: Jean Arambula
Staff Writer: Amy Lansburg
Advertising: Leona Abood

Distributed Free Throughout the Area

Southern Artist's League News

Submitted by Ouida Lampert,
Chair, SAL Membership
Communications

Past news: Our June meeting yielded new officers. They are:

President: Dick Bjornseth
Vice President: Marshall Norris
Secretary: Jean Little

The positions of Treasurer and Membership Director have been combined and the duties will be shared by Ferrell Harris and Ann Johnston.

Additionally, the June meeting was a successful members' works critique. Over a dozen artworks by SAL members were presented for commentary by other members. The participants felt the lively discussions and insights proved to be a valuable event. SAL plans to repeat this Member's Critique Night again.

SAL members were polled about the types of activities we would like to see SAL pursue for future meetings, and the results will be announced at the July meeting.

Finally, members were asked to volunteer for the various activities and committees for the upcoming year. A formal plan for the 2001/2002-year will be prepared by the Executive Board and presented for membership comments and approval.

Other News: Artist of the Month: For the month of July, our featured artist is Marshall Norris.

If you are interested in being the Artist of the Month, and if you have a body of work to display, contact Dick Bjornseth, President SAL, at 229-293-0358 to find out more about the program.

Logo Contest: Deadline July 16.

Southern Artists' League is ready for a new, fresher look that is easily identifiable in print. So, it's time for a new logo, and who better to design that than a member of SAL? There will be a cash prize of \$200. for the

winner. The deadline for submittal is now July 16.

Requirements: Logo may be of any style, but it must include the name "Southern Artists' League" across the bottom of the design. The initials "SAL" may be used as well, but use of the initials does not replace the name of the organization.

Logo must be submitted on 8 1/2 x 11 illustration board; however, logo submitted does not have to be camera-ready. If your logo wins the contest, in order to receive the cash award, you will be responsible for producing a camera-ready version of the artwork.

While the logo may be 2-color, it must be reproducible in black & white as well.

All rights to the winning artwork will be transferred to Southern Artists' League, Inc.

Only members of SAL are eligible for the contest; however, non-members may join SAL by submitting the membership form and fee with logo contest entry.

July Meeting: July 16th at LVAC, 7pm. Remember July 16th is the deadline for the logo contest for SAL's new logo. Our featured speaker will be Marshall Norris, who will lead a discussion on issues of copyright as they relate to the use of an artist's own work. Norris will also address appropriate and inappropriate use (or misappropriation) of other artworks, including photographs, in your work. You are encouraged to bring your own work or examples of potential copyright problems for case study discussion.

Upcoming:

August: Potential gallery tour

September: Potential membership show at local restaurant or other venue

October: Semi-annual picnic at Marshall and Barbara Norris' farm

November: Art auction to be organized by Ann Johnston and Betty Smith

December: Holiday party

If you have Southern Artists' League news for future editions, please call Ouida Lampert at 229-293-0300, or email at accents@datasys.net.

The Voice will publish your event in the calendar.

Just send by 15th of the month to:

Snake Nation Press
110 #2 West Force Street
Valdosta GA 31601

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If you would like to become a member, please do so by filling out this form. You may bring it to any meeting or mail it to the address below.

Southern Artists' League Membership Form

Active. Dues are \$20.00 per year.

Student. Dues are \$10.00 per year.

(Student membership is limited to full-time students who are 18 years or older.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Medium _____ Date _____

Make Check Payable to Southern Artists' League and Mail To:

Southern Artists', League
Box 2562
Valdosta, GA 31604-2562



Ouida Lampert
may be
e-mailed at
accents@datasys.net

OUR WALLS HAVE A STORY TO TELL

Two cockroaches lived in a hospital. Each day, they would go exploring and report back to the other about what they had found. One day, the first cockroach found an operating room. Excited, it rushed back to report the find. "Oooh, I found a room that was clean and white and bright and sanitary and,...."

The other interrupted: Pleeese! Not while I'm eating!"

While this story, compliments of a fellow Rotarian, isn't terribly appealing, it struck a chord for me. Rarely does a day go by where I am not reminded that life is a very different story for each of us—and we all have our own idea of what is worthwhile, even desirable, and not. The only part of this that surprises me is that my unique view of life comes about largely because I am a framer. I frame pictures and pieces of people's lives—and their memories.

In our shop, we see people at their best, when they're thinking about ways to enrich their environment with things such as artwork or personal mementos. We have the opportunity to talk about the riding boots saved from the trash bin because they belonged to a favorite aunt, the spoon that made its way through Africa on a mission trip where there was very little else to eat with, the medals grandpa won in the war(s), and the folded flag that grandma received.

We have the benefit of seeing lots of original artwork (children's artwork is a favorite subject) before the public gets to see it "presented." We see photos of funerals, weddings and first smiles—but what makes all this so wondrous is that every piece that we frame has a story attached.

One of my favorite stories from our shop is when we had a husband in who was framing something for his wife—a surprise—for her 60th birthday. He was trying to decide which of several things he wanted to include in a shadowbox and another customer commented that she remem-

bered having a bicycle just like the one in one of his photographs (his wife, as a teenager, was riding the bike in the photo). He told all of us about how he had worked to find the things without his wife knowing about his project, and that he really wanted something that would represent the six decades of her life. It turned out that our other customer was about the same age (yes, some women DO NOT mind sharing their age!) and she could help him make those decisions.

When the project was finished, delivered and presented, the man's wife came in to thank us and left a note of thanks for the other customer who had helped her husband "re-learn about (her) life".

Relationships were once based on a common need for survival. People depended on others for the essentials (food, water, shelter, etc.) of life, because no one was able to do everything. Today, our lives are much easier because we can just buy whatever we need, or want, without thinking much about how it came to be. And, other than whatever passes as immediate family, we don't seem to "need" people. This separation from one another has given us privacy, yes, but at what price?

I challenge you—the next time you're in someone's home or office, notice what is on their walls. Ask them about the pieces and try to truly listen to their answers (in other words, don't just ask out of politeness. If you really listen to what they have to say, you'll learn something). You may find a connection to that person that you otherwise would have missed.

Maybe it's the Independence Day holiday that has me thinking along these lines, or maybe it's the cockroaches reviewing their day, but whatever it is, it makes me very happy to be where I am and to have the opportunity to get to know a side of people that isn't always known by everyone. It just reinforces my conviction that everyone has a story to tell.

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Valdosta

Local Artist Directory

"Igniting your Creativity"

...sharing NEW ideas.... and meeting NEW people

A fun class at Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission

As an artist, have you ever reached a creative dead spot, where you couldn't think of anything new to draw, paint or photograph?

Have you ever thought that maybe your ideas were good, but you needed some new creative spark to make them great?

This hands-on class will provide fun strategies to come up with *original ideas* to improve your artwork.

Four weeks classes on Sunday afternoons 4:30 - 6:30 pm.
 Fee: \$55 Call 247-2787 for more info and to register.
 Instructor: Dick Bjornseth

Next class starts: July 15!

African Caribbean Dance Theatre Workshop
Saturday, July 28, 2001
Southside Recreation Center
604 S Oak St.
Valdosta, GA
247-2140 or 242-6764

All media

Hollis Barnett (229) 333-5838
 Dick Bjornseth (229) 293-0352
 J. Stephen Lahr (229) 244-7024
 Ouida Duke Lampert (229) 242-8757
 Barbara & Marshall Norris
 (850) 948-2720

Teresa Rozier (229) 559-0220

All media, murals and faux finish

Ann Johnston (229) 247-6311

All media, including restorations

Karin Murray (229) 333-5835

Acrylic paintings, landscape

Marcia Flatau (229) 242-2180

Acrylic paintings, scenics

Harley Hall (229) 794-3595

Calligraphy

Todd Alderman (229) 245-8054

Phyllis Maria Harris (229) 253-9177

Ceramics

Walter Hobbs (229) 244-9888

Betty Smith (229) 242-4820

Colored pencil

Leon Colvin (229) 247-5037

Metal sculpture

Wilby Coleman (229) 253-1691

Oil portraits

Bill Hoopes (229) 263-4068

Fay Bridges Hyatt (229) 253-9982

Oil paintings

Ruth Kahler (229) 247-6621

Oil paintings, still life

Bebe Blanton (229) 242-7419

Ferrell Harris (229) 245-1671

Oil paintings, murals, faux finishes

Elizabeth Hall (229) 560-3132

Pastel

Patsy Hickox (229) 686-5676

Photo restoration

Jack Rowe (229) 244-1755

Photography

Tracie Radford (229) 253-9703

Portraits, paintings, faux finishes

B.J. Paulk 242-5134

Sketches

Haley Rosenberg (229) 247-2795

Stained glass

Mick Widner (229) 249-0344

Water media

Eleanor Bollman (229) 333-0195

Watercolor, southern landscapes

Lillian Brooks (229) 794-2473

Watercolor

Joyce Haddock (229) 244-1049

Claire Hall (229) 249-8423

Sylvia Warrick (229) 244-3176

Park (229) 244-6165

Georgia Smith (229) 242-5820

Watercolor Portraits

Jean Little (229) 244-5466

Watercolor, including pet portraits

Don Pettigrew (229) 244-9394

Sunday Afternoon Models

Southern Artists' League is looking for models for the life drawing class on Sunday afternoon. Modeling wage is \$10.00/hr. for clothed models and \$15.00/hr. for nude. The League particularly needs nude models, both male and female, of any body type and any age over 18. No experience is necessary. For more information on modeling or on participating in the class, call Dick Bjornseth, President SAL, at 229-293-0358. Note: hours for the sessions have been extended to 2½ hours (1:30 - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons). Artists of all skill levels are invited to join in the casual and fun sessions, and the cost is only \$6.00 per session (including all the coffee you can drink!)

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 Dinner 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Sunday Brunch
 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

242-4000

For reservations

Theatre Guild Valdosta Held its 2000-2001 Rosie Awards in June

And The Winners Are:

- Best Actor: Michael Brogdon
- Best Actress: Mary Ann Green
- Best Supporting Actor: Fred Stikkel
- Best Supporting Actress: Patricia Croll
- Feature Performance (male): Mike Glasscock
- Feature Performance (female): Linda Stikkel
- Cameo Performance (male): Roger Burrage
- Cameo Performance (female): Joanne Pless
- Best Director: Mary Ann Green
- Best Show: "Out of Order"
- Best Technical: "Something's Afoot"
- The John Youmans Award: Linda Stikkel

July kicks off the new season for TGV. Here is the revised schedule for the year.

Little Shop of Horrors" August 30, 31, September 1, 2, 6, 7, & 8	"Crimes of the Heart" January 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, & February 1 & 2
"Wait Until Dark" October 25, 26, 27, 28, & November 1, 2, & 3	Spring Family Show March 9
Children's Christmas Show December 1	"Proposals" May 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, & 11

- Annual Membership—\$15.00
- Member Season Ticket—\$32.00
- Non-Member Season Ticket—\$35.00
- Single ticket (musical only)—\$12.00
- Single ticket—\$10.00
- Family Shows—\$3.00 & \$5.00

Support Community Theatre in Valdosta.

If you are a patron who enjoys live theatre or has a family member already involved with TGV, then please consider the following options in the way of monetary support.

Sweet Charity—\$100.00
Includes membership, one season ticket, program listing and donation of \$53.00.

Auntie Mame—\$200.00
Includes membership, two season tickets, program listing, two tickets to the Rosie Awards, and donation of \$91.00.

Golden Boy—\$325.00
Includes membership, four season tickets, program listing, four tickets to the Rosie Awards, and donation of \$122.00.

Sugar Baby—\$550.00
Includes membership, six season tickets, program listing, six tickets to the Rosie Awards, and donation of \$241.00.

You Can't Take It With You—\$1000.00
Includes membership, ten season tickets, program listing, ten tickets to the Rosie Awards, hospitality for 10 at intermission, and donation of \$495.00.

Show Sponsor—\$1000.00
Includes ten tickets to One Show, hospitality for ten at intermission, and recognition in ALL publicity.



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Albany Artists Come to Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center

Six Albany artists will be displaying their work in the Main Gallery at the L/VAC Arts Center, starting on July 16, 2001, with a reception, 5-7pm, refreshments, open and free to the public. Come, meet the artists, and see what's going on in the art world in Albany.



"Solitude"

Carole Hall Gum's art includes watercolor, oils as well as pastels. She was Exhibiting Vice-President in 1996 and President in 1997 of the Georgia Artists' Guild of Albany. Carole teaches some private lessons in her home art studio.



"Eggplants are Shiny"

Janice Rich Rentz paints and exhibits pieces in a style ranging from realistic to semi-abstract using watercolor and acrylics. Many of the ideas for works come from her studies of the Old Testament as well as dream images and family situations.



"Poppies in Bloom"

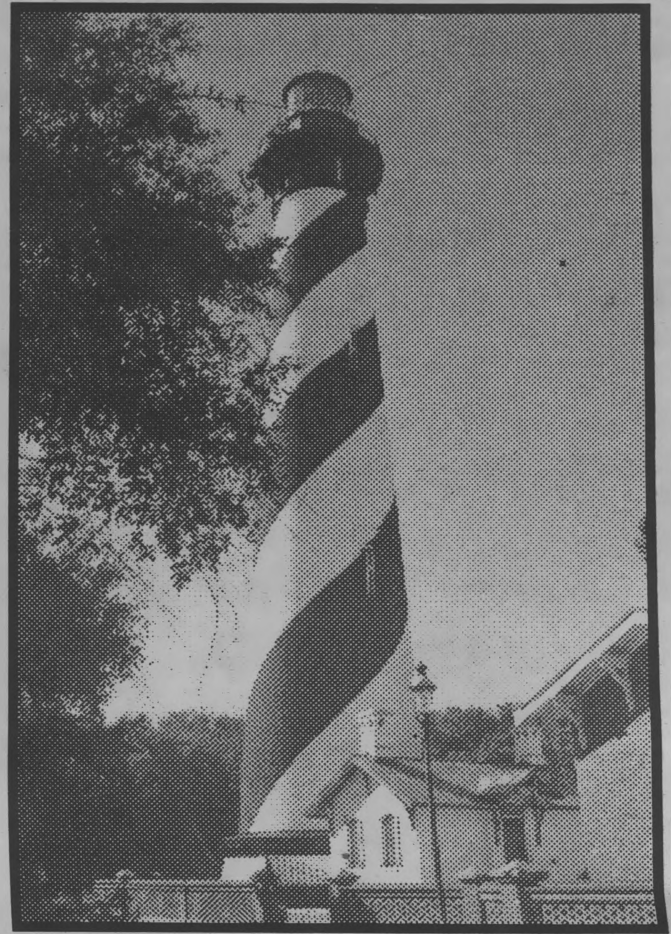
Barbara A. Delung raised her family before deciding to pursue a career as an artist. She works mostly in oil and watercolor and enjoys sculpting and photography. People have always been favorite subject in Barbara's art although, while learning watercolor the past few years, she has focused on flowers.

Carole Hall Gum is curator of this exhibit.



"Fern Haven"

Doug Wolfe is an accomplished self-taught photographer. His work is a fitting tribute to the combination of innate beauty and idyllic charm that can only be experienced in the American South.



St. Augustine Lighthouse

The L/VAC Hall Gallery will host an exhibition of color and black and white photographs of the Lighthouses of Florida by **Dr. Jean Marani**. Dr. Marani is a prize-winning photographer from Tallahassee, Florida. Some may remember her excellent exhibit of the Covered Bridges of Georgia, which was in the Hall Gallery several years ago.



"Serene Morning"

Diane Johnson is a self-taught artist working mostly in watercolor and occasionally in acrylic. More recently she has ventured into oil painting. Animals are her favorite subject to paint, but she has not limited herself to only animals. She is always studying the way light is reflected or absorbed by objects. Thus she likes painting "light" and the subject matter is secondary.



St. George Island "Break of Morn"

Bill Delung's photographs reflect travels to far places, but he looks for shooting opportunities at home and wherever he visits. His preferences are broad, covering nature, landscapes, buildings seascapes, and other objects of color.

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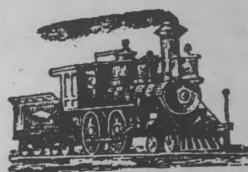
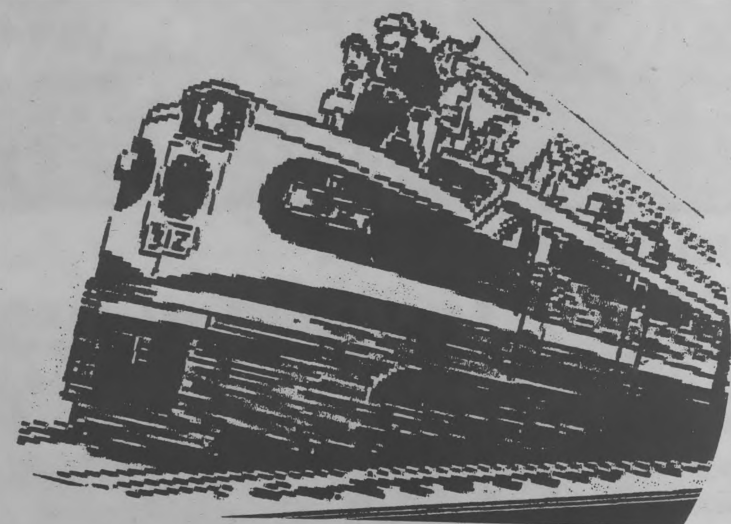
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Rachel Domm: Young Artist of the Month

Life-long Valdostan and reborn New Yorker, Rachel Domm (19) is visiting her family while on break from the Pratt Art Institute in New York City. She has enjoyed the mind-opening experience of the city's atmosphere and the perspective of being amongst artists of different talents. It was more of a culture shock to come back to the south compared to her time in New York. She connected with the city. It provided her with access to cutting-edge art, studios, museums and one of the most established art cultures in the world.

Being a student of art has been a demanding and educational experience. Working with competition and great talents was a new view for Rachel. Competition between artists was something that didn't exist in her art education before. She discovered there was more emphasis on the technical than intuitive and is con-

stantly stretching her creativity while maintaining precision and skill. She admires the work of abstract and British artists, one of her favorite is Damien Hurst. Rachel mediums include charcoal, oil, acrylic and mixed media, she would like to expand toward 3-D art. Her major is illustration. Summer break has allowed Rachel to, "Let the creative part of my brain go on hiatus."

In her free time, Rachel delights in, reading and physical activities, such as yoga and running. When she feels the need to be expressive, instead of picking up a paint brush she will often write a poem or find different ways to release her creativity. This summer she has instructed youth art classes at L/VAC. "I learned to see the world from a teacher's perspective." It was a change from student to educator. She enjoyed the experience, "It was rewarding to see the children appreciate art."

"It was rewarding to see the children appreciate art."

When she was younger, Rachel would draw and always took an interest in art. She expanded her talents when she received private instruction from Professor Harry Ally at VSU. She always had support from her parents even if they weren't as artistically inclined. She advises aspiring artists: "Don't be discouraged by criticism, but be open to new ideas and keep a positive outlook. It's not about competition, it's about using art to express oneself."



Rachel Domm with her art students

If you are a young artist and want to be featured in this column, please call Maria Arambula at 244-0752.

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Modern Country Living

By Patti Strickland

We live in the country. We like it! My husband, children, and I moved to Berrien county two years ago from the big city of Valdosta. Although I have many country cousins and spent plenty of time on their farms when I was growing up, I'm still learning how to be a "country gal". But we have noticed that there are some differences between city life and country life.

One difference is the water. We have a deep well so our water has no chlorine or fluoride. When a big thunderstorm comes up, we fill a container with water in case the power goes out. Our pump is electric so the water goes when our power goes. I also find myself more concerned about the amount of rainfall because it affects the water level of our pond. When I lived in town, I was not at all concerned about water tables.

Another difference is the amount of time we spend going to and from places. We are twenty miles from our previous residence in the city, but we still go to the same church, work at the same jobs, and shop at the same stores. "Make your trips to town count," one of my country cousins warned. My husband says, "Always buy milk and bread." We have an insulated container for cold foods to use when grocery shopping, and we try to keep our vehicles' gas tanks from getting too low. We also use our cell phones quite a bit. They come in handy when one of us goes to town and the other remembers we need milk.

Our two-storied country home is beautiful to me: lots of trees, a pond, a pool, a garden, a dog pen for our Jack Russell terrier and dachshund, and an out-building, which houses lawn equipment and my husband's workshop. A huge live oak shades the front of our house, and two bird feeders see a lot of activity from birds and squirrels. Yes, we let the squirrels eat there, too. They are interesting to watch.

I was apprehensive when I first moved, about critters finding their way inside my house. So far, we have had only one mouse in the walls - dispatched by a bug control man - and one skink. I scared the skink as much as he scared me. One night I walked into the kitchen and heard a rustle, saw movement on the floor to my right. It was a skink about ten inches long. I screamed and the skink scrambled towards the trashcan. My husband, George, came running to save me, cornering the skink near the stove.

The poor thing stayed there until George approached with a dish-towel, attempted to grab it and put it outside. Now, George is 6'4" and looks intimidating. The skink probably thought a giant was about to eat it, so it made a mad dash back to its hole. My gentle giant of a husband now has a new project - close up that hole.

One thing I have enjoyed about country living is our garden. I personally have the "thumb of death"—I kill the un-killable—I can't even grow mint. George, on the other hand, makes our garden a delight. Corn, tomatoes, beans, squash, watermelon, peas,—you name it, and he can grow it. I asked him not to grow peas this year, though, because I hate picking and shelling them. Still, I love tomatoes. And silver queen corn. Yummm!

We also have peach trees, pear trees, and blueberry bushes. Our peaches and blueberries are coming in (ripening and ready to pick). Living in the country means having at least one freezer. We have two chest freezers and an outside refrigerator/freezer, as well as an indoor kitchen unit. We freeze our bounteous vegetables and fruits, as well as grocery store purchases.

Last night, I had my friends, Bob and Ninette, for supper. I had not planned far enough ahead for a dessert, and I was trying to think of something different than just serving ice cream. Since my blueberry bushes are bearing, I took a basket and picked only the ripest blueberries, just enough for my dinner guests. I pulled out some frozen puff pastry shells from one of the freezers. I did have to substitute some ingredients from what my cookbook suggested. I experimented and made the most delicious (thank goodness!) dessert dish.

Our supper consisted of pork chops that George cooked on the smoker, and fresh vegetables from my in-laws' garden. George's parents live 2 ½ miles from us, but in the country that is: "Go left out the driveway, turn left at the stop sign, then turn right at their mailbox." My mother-in-law had brought me fresh bush beans (green beans), yellow summer squash, zucchini, and some other kind of summer squash with scalloped edges. I cooked the beans with bacon (I know, I know—cholesterol), and the squash and zucchini with a Vidalia onion and stewed tomatoes. Delicious!

Blueberry-Cream Cheese Tarts

1 8-oz. package of cream cheese
2 T. milk
1 c. sugar (I substituted XXXX sugar)
1 tsp. vanilla
½ tsp. almond extract
½ c. heavy cream, whipped (I substituted Cool Whip)
12 baked 2 ½-in. tart shells
(I substituted baked 6 puff pastry shells, split)
2 c. blueberries (I "eyed" the blueberries)

Blend cream cheese and milk until soft; beat in sugar gradually. Add vanilla and almond extract; fold in whipped cream. Spoon filling into tart shells; top with blueberries. Refrigerate until ready to serve. May be garnished with additional whipped cream, if desired.

Squash Medley

Butter or margarine
Vidalia onion, cut up
Yellow summer squash, cut in ½ slices
Zucchini, cut in ½ slices
Two cans diced tomatoes

Melt butter in frying pan on medium-high heat. Sauté onions lightly. Place squash and zucchini in a pan. Dump tomatoes in pan. Stir. Turn heat to low. Cover, stirring occasionally. Add whatever seasonings you want - Italian seasoning is especially good. Cook until it is done to your desired firmness. Older country cooks always cooked vegetables "to death", that is until they were soft as can be. I like mine a little firmer.

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Horror-Scopes

by Atilla the Hunney

July ("Buying and spending we lay waste our powers." —Wordsworth)

Aries (March 21-April 19): The way you handle money is a good indicator of your mental health. Cut those credit cards up or put them in a jug of water in the freezer; anything to control your spending. Pay cash; it will keep you out of the red.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Where oh where did the bull market go? Your financial prospects are both good and bad. Sell that loser and take the tax write off. Hold on to companies that are making money even though their value as stocks are down. A better day is coming.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): "I wish you comfort in the storm/a cozy fire to keep you warm. I wish you bliss, but more than this, I wish you love./ And in July a lemonade/to cool you in some leafy glade/ I wish you this/ but more than bliss/I wish you love." Old love song that haunts you won't bring that person back.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Funny how that new, expensive outfit doesn't make you feel any better. The new car or new house won't do it either. And good grief, all those rings! "Three rings neurotic; five rings psychotic." Remember real change, real happiness comes from the heart, not from material possessions.

Leo (July 23-August 22): Give up being judgmental. What is right for you does not apply to the rest of the world. The wheeler dealer in your psychic make-up wants the fast buck, but, remember, you're always sorry afterwards. Try speaking the absolute, total truth.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): "Don't complain, don't explain" is good advice for you this month. Let others cry in their beer; you've been through experiences that would have killed many a good man, but you've come through the champion. Life will not get you down again.

Libra (September 23-October 22): Don't try to be in control of the world, or the people around you, or of your surroundings. You can't stop the roof from leaking when it rains or the plumbing backing up; it's the human condition. "Get over it!"

Scorpio (October 23-November 21): So, you're taking a sabbatical. Good for you! Give the rat race a rest. The result of your decision will be better or worse than you thought. True love doesn't always knock on the front door. "Why do you knock, when you are the door."

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Lucky, lucky sagittarius. Once again, you've scraped by—by the skin of your teeth—whatever that means. Try for honesty first and forever more. It's the only way. The universe will pay you back double upon double.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): You're trying; give yourself credit for that effort. Again, settle up with the I.R.S. and sleep better at night. Let someone you trust invest the rest of the money for you. In other words, get it out of your hot little hands.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Make up your mind that suffering is a large part of life; trying to escape only makes for more difficulties. Three deaths are allotted: the death of friends, the death of loved ones, and the death of self.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): How is the universe going to use you? Try for perspective and patience this month. See the connections between events rather than just the events themselves. Your vision needs to change. Dissolve into the spirit.

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DIALOGUES WITH MO JUBA

Spot Light, Dance and Shout! Hope everyone had a happy safe Fourth of July Yes. Life is wonderful. The spotlight focuses on Mrs. Mildred Moss Hunter. Mrs. Hunter is seventy-eight. She and I met in Ray's Food Market. The store is located at the intersection of West and Magnolia Streets. Now, this historical location is owned by Raymond and his wife Sallie Washington.

Mrs. Hunter: (sitting on a tall stool at the cashier's counter and speaking in a low gentle voice.) "Being in here brings back lots of memories."

Mrs. Sallie: "If these walls could only talk. They could tell Mo Juba a few stories."

Mrs. Hunter: "Yes. (short pause) It was long before your time."

Mo Juba: "Good morning ma'am."

Mrs. Hunter: "Good morning, Mo Juba."

Mo Juba: "Mrs. Hunter, please share an over view of your childhood and education."

Mrs. Hunter: "My childhood began in this very spot. I was born a couple of doors down from the store at 907 West Magnolia Street. My mother and father opened this store in 1917, and it operated continuously—until about 1976. I grew up and I attended the public schools of Valdosta. I graduated, left, and went to Fort Valley State. Because, as you know, at that point Valdosta State College was not integrated I had to go to Fort Valley State College to get my degree (smiling). When I finished, I returned to Lowndes County and worked in the county system for eighteen months, moved to the city school system and worked there - until I retired in 1983."

Mo Juba: "What year did you get married?"

Mrs. Hunter: "I married in 1944 to David Hunter. He was not a Valdostan. But, he had moved here at an early age, and we opened and operated the Hunter's Garage on the corner of Ashley and Martin L. King Drive for a number of years."

Mo Juba: "Do you remember any of the people whom you had the opportunity to befriend and work with?"

Mrs. Hunter: "Yes. My favorite and very close friend was Mrs. Barbara King (short pause) And others. I do remember Mr. Echols and that's about all (sighing). It really has been a while."

Mo Juba: "I understand. What year did the Valdosta and Lowndes County School Boards merge the African-American schools with the European-American schools?"

Mrs. Hunter: "I think it was about 1968. Yes. It was around 1968. I was transferred from Dasher (High) Junior High to Valdosta High School. I worked there a number of years and moved to West Gordon Elementary School in media, and that's where I retired in 1983."

Mo Juba: "I have two more questions. What is your age? And, what message do you want to share with future teachers? After all, you're a member of Valdosta and Lowndes County Oral History."

Mrs. Hunter: (Giggles) "Thank you for saying that. Well, always keep the student in mind and future teachers please do your very best. Because, many young people will be depending on you for the right educational guidance."

NOTE: Readers, we need your help. The Valdosta Voice staff has embarked on recording a video oral history of retired school teachers from Lowndes and Valdosta area. We want to interview you. Do you know of anybody that we should interview? Please contact The Voice at 244-0752

Dance with the African Caribbean Dance Theatre.

I visited Mrs. Vanessa Loud at Crown And Glory Salon on West Oak Street. She is the Disciple Of Dance, Women Of Warfare founder, Artistic Director, teacher, and dancer. Vanessa has teamed up with the African Caribbean Dance Theatre to perform and direct a dance workshop.

Mo Juba: (knocks and opens door) "Vanessa may I come in?"

Vanessa: "Yes. You always do anyway."

Mo Juba: "I have a lot of respect for the female's R and R space."

Vanessa: "Mo Juba, you're so funny. I can only give you five minutes. I have a customer under the dryer. Have a seat. But, I'm too excited to sit." (Touching feet with finger tips)

Mo Juba: "I can tell. But, you're always projecting positive flow. You keep your craft together."

Vanessa: "Thank you. But, to have the African Caribbean Dance Theatre to come to our community. Wow. They really got it going on. They are truly a blessing."

Mo Juba: "In what way?"

Vanessa: (Slowly raising left leg) "Every Tuesday afternoon, I drive down to Tallahassee to the African Caribbean Dance Theatre. It is run by Markus and Jevelle Robinson, (P. O. Box 10943, Tallahassee, Fl. 32302, 850-539-4087). Markus and Jevelle are the African Dance Culture in Tallahassee. They have been doing creative dance theatre for ten or more years. I go to them for my training and to keep myself abreast of the trends and my body emotionally tuned to the beating drums. The training I receive, I bring back here to share with our community."

Mo Juba: "I hope you promised the African Caribbean Dancers more than a meal to come to Valdosta?"

Vanessa: "Yes. Southside Recreation Center, where I am the dance instructor, was given a Grass-root Grant through the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission's program. It is funded by the Georgia Council For The Arts. I had been talking to Markus and Jevelle for some time about coming here. What they are charging us to come is very cheap. They normally charge much more. But, they are doing the workshop as a favor to me."

Mo Juba: "Who will Markus bring to help teach the workshop?"

Vanessa: "Professional dancers and drummers. Markus and Jevelle are great trainers. When I have my classes on Monday nights at 6PM, I also play the drum. We need drummers. So, I hope a drum player reads this and give us a call. A musician can help me take our young people to a higher level."

Mo Juba: "What do you enjoy most about the African Caribbean Dancers as a team?"

Vanessa: "When I go down there in Tallahassee. The students in the classes age ranges from four up to sixty years old. These are men, women, teenagers and little children. One lady that was seventy."

Mo Juba: "What do you enjoy most about the African Caribbean Dancers as a team?"

Vanessa: "Markus teaches most of the classes. But, he will get in line and let a child teach, a teenager teach, and he let us adults teach some of the classes too. Markus does that so we can all learn from each other. I've learned movements from a seven-year-old child."

Mo Juba: "When and where will the African Caribbean Dancers be visiting Valdosta?"

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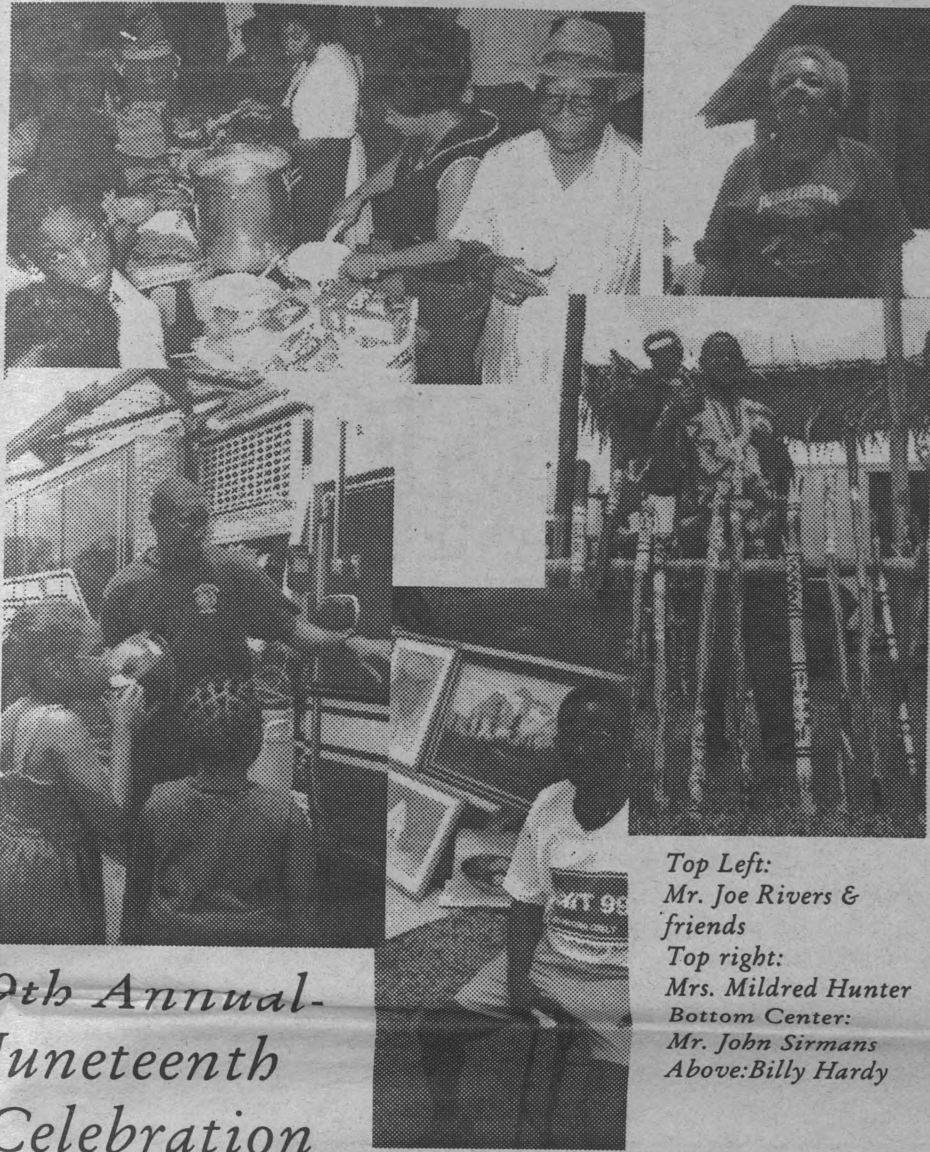
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Top right:
Mrs. Mildred Hunter
Bottom Center:
Mr. John Sirmans
Above: Billy Hardy

Vanessa: "At Southside Recreation Center and the address is 604 S. Oak Street. Saturday, July 28, and the workshops are free to the public. There will be a Children's Dance Workshop at 2:00 until 3:00PM. Afterward, there will be an adult dance workshop at 3:00 until 4:00PM."

Mo Juba: "Now, I understand why you're so excited. I know you've been working hard to pull this cultural affair off. Explode it on the summer scene. Plus, the dance workshops are free."

Vanessa: "Yes. Southside Recreation Center staff and I felt like the dance workshop should be free to all. Because, we do not want anyone to be left out. No matter what a person's financial background is. A lot of parents don't have five or ten dollars a week to pay for classes. This happens a lot and eliminates some creative people. I strongly believe exposing our youth and others in the area to the African Caribbean Dance Theatre will help them and their parents too. Why? Because, the creative arts are so healing, mentally elevating, and spiritually up lifting. No matter how old a person is. And people with some disabilities can enjoy and it is a known fact they do benefit. We all can use some positive energy in our life. (Looking at her watch) Is that all your questions?"

Mo Juba: "Yes. Thanks for speaking with me."

Vanessa: "Anytime. (Walking toward her work room) Mo Juba bring me some *Valdosta Voice* papers to give to my customers."

Mo Juba: "Will do. You ladies have a nice day."

Vanessa & Customer: (Voices from work room) "We will."

Mo Juba: (Walking home) I want to give a SHOUT OUT to the Valdosta's 9th Annual Juneteenth Celebration—which was held on June 15-16 and presented by the Southside Library Booster, Inc. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. It began around 1865. On June 19th the Union Soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas, with news that the war had ended and that all people held in bondage or in slavery were free. Mr. Joe Rivers enjoyed the Friday fish fry and he had a ice cream cone for desert. Billy Hardy (sculptor) explained to on-lookers the many hours it takes to create one piece of art. The ladies enlightened with make-up and exchanged beauty tips. Mrs. Mildred M. Hunter and family members enjoyed themselves too. The West Oak Street Fire Department members were on hand with the smoke mobile home unite and trucks with long ladders. See you all next year.

I also want to give a SHOUT OUT to PFC Jennifer R. Sanford. She just came from Kosovo as part of NATO peace keeping force. "Welcome home, Jennifer."

I'm going to end with two sad stories. Mrs. Ethel Riley Washington died. During the fifties and sixties, she and her husband operated Washington Laundry on West Street, and they relocated their business near Hudson Dockett-until Mr. Washington died. Mrs. Washington also taught in the Valdosta School System.

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The Valdosta and Lake Park facilities will be offering co-ed Pilates mat classes. Although Pilates is a format that is easy to follow it takes a trained instructor to teach the Pilate methods correctly. All YMCA classes will include a CERTIFIED PILATES INSTRUCTOR to lead you through this dynamic, easy to follow class format. Classes will begin in early July.

YMCA

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