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By JOY M. HILL
Times Staff Writer

Artists' League's Holiday Home

Where can you find living furniture, a life-sized dolphin sculpture, brilliantly colored silk banners and art for the floor, wall, table and body?

Those and much, much more are temporarily on display at The Gallery in the Mill Store Plaza in Lake Park.

All the artistic pieces on display are for sale and are the original work of more than 30 members of the Southern Artists' League, a non-profit group of artists from around the region.

Each item is individually handmade by the local artists — nothing is mass produced. In fact, everything in the store is one-of-a-kind, said Ouida Duke Lampert, spokesman for SAL.

Prices range from \$2 for a ceramic animal sculpture to \$6,500 for a handcrafted piece of "living furniture."

Living furniture? According to creator Paul L. McNulty living furniture is "fine custom-made furniture for all living things." Two such pieces are on display at The Gallery.

In the first one McNulty has created a miniature rain forest complete with live plants, a pebble-bottom pool and rain showers. It's actually rigged to maintain the proper humidity and produce showers each week.

The second piece is a lighted bookcase below and a miniature southwest desert with cacti, rocks, sand and Bela, a live leopard gecko, above. Both the desert and the rain forest are handcrafted of solid oak and glass and are designed to compliment fine furnishings.

The unique furniture takes up only a fraction of space in the large art gallery that resembles a museum art exhibit. Displays of jewelry, pottery, silk creations, paintings, quilts and painted floor clothes are tastefully arranged to enhance each individual piece.

One artist uses white silk and textile dyes to create dramatic wall hangings. Another hand carves marble statues. Another lets the natural imperfections of wood dictate how his hand-turned vessels will look.

There are displays of glass —



Ouida Duke Lampert, right, shows Kathy Young some of the many artistic items for sale at the Southern Artists' League's store, The Gallery at the Mill Store Plaza — Times Photo by Paul Leavy.

etched, stained and fused. There's even glass jewelry. And jewelry made from just about every other imaginable medium — textiles, sterling, clay and wood.

There are oil, acrylic, pastel, colored pencil and water color paintings — with themes ranging from traditional to abstract. And there are sculptures of wood, clay and glass.

The whole gallery is eclectic — there's something for everyone, said Ms. Lampert.

Local artists who have been recognized both locally and nationally have pieces on display and to pay for their space, they work in the shop, said Ms. Lampert.

The store space was made available to the non-profit group on a temporary basis

through the efforts of local citizens and the Mill Store Plaza.

"Burt Bright, director of the Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission, and Lena Bosch, really went to bat for us in getting this thing going," said Ms. Lampert.

The store is a boon for both the artists and the outlet shopping mall, said Tina McNair, marketing manager for the Mill Store Plaza, who was instrumental in working out a "mutually beneficial lease" with the artists group.

"We were aware that they sometimes do outside exhibits and contacted them to set up a holiday display," said Ms. McNair.

"It helps both of us. We don't have an empty store front and they get the exposure. It's our

way of helping a community group."

She added the art gallery doesn't compete with any of the mall's other tenants and has been well received by them and customers.

The Gallery opened in October and will move out the end of December, in time for a new outlet tenant to open in January, Ms. McNair said.

After that, most of the artists' work will be represented in the gallery shop at the Cultural Arts Center on Patterson Street in Valdosta.

In the meantime, The Gallery in the Mill Store Plaza is open from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and from 1-6 p.m., Sunday.

After Thanksgiving it will also be open on Mondays.



Joe and Jon Nijem of Nijem's Diamonds & Gold present a contribution to the Cultural Arts Guild. Receiving the check are Dorothy Pearlman, President, and Twinkie Smith, Treasurer.



Cultural Arts Guild
presents

Jewelry Sale

★ Fantastic Selection ★ Tremendous Savings ★
Perfect for Christmas

Your purchase benefits the Arts with a touch of jewelry

Wednesday & Thursday, December 2 & 3, 1992

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For Men Only 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday

The Cultural Arts Center

1204 N. Patterson Street

Large Selection
10 & 14 K Unique
Gold Chains &
Bracelets
\$49 and up

Solid Gold Rings
Large Selection
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Watches
Seiko and Bulova
Latest Selection
30 to 50% OFF

Large Selection of
Diamonds
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Pendants,
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Unique Pieces
of
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Semi-Precious
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& Earrings



Cultural Arts Guild

October 16, 1992

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS!

NIJEMS DIAMONDS AND GOLD and THE CULTURAL ARTS GUILD have combined to present a benefit for you and the community. **December 2 & 3** there will be a sale and a happening with refreshments.

This is a bargain and a way of supporting artistic programs and events of our community. When you purchase that special holiday gift, all you have to do is make your check payable to The Cultural Arts Guild, and you can note 25% of the price a Tax Deduction.

Ring sizing will be provided at either of NIJEMS DIAMONDS AND GOLD locations - The New Wal-Mart Shopping Center or the Lake Park Store. These purchases will be backed by NIJEMS' Lifetime Guarantee.

SEE YOU DECEMBER 2ND AND 3RD AT THE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER, 1204 N. PATTERSON ST. PHONE 247-2787 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Happy Holidays!

Your Hostesses from The Cultural Arts Guild.

Sally C. Moritz

Sally C. Moritz, Chairman



N-I-J-E-M
DIAMONDS & GOLD

'A Christmas Carol' Coming Thursday

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission will welcome the touring production of "A Christmas Carol" to Mathis Municipal Auditorium at 8 p.m. Thursday.

"Don your holiday finest, or come dressed as you are," said Burt Bright, executive director of LVAC. "Charles Dickens' endearing story is splendidly retold in this stage adaptation of 'A Christmas Carol,' produced for the enjoyment of your entire family.

The familiar cast of characters — crotchety old Scrooge; the apparition of his former partner Jacob Marley; the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future; and lovable Tiny Tim — are joined by an exuberant ensemble of singers and dancers. Spectacular costumes, sets and special effects have thrilled audiences throughout the country. No one will leave with a "bah, humbug" attitude after seeing this delightful Christmas tale!

"A Christmas Carol" is presented in two acts with seven scenes in each act. The play opens in London on Christmas Eve 1886.

A brief background is provided on Charles Dickens by Bill Fegan Attractions (the company performing the show): Dickens was a Londoner. In 1843, when he wrote "A Christmas

Carol," he was at the height of his career, a proud, successful writer whose novels brought tears to the eyes of devoted readers as far away as America.

At 31, he had worked his way from the humble, often brutal experiences of a poverty-stricken childhood to the drawing rooms of London's social-literary set. He was the head of a large and costly household, and he was hounded by the necessity to earn money and, at the same time, to maintain a brilliant career.

One of the prime motivations in the creative force of Dickens was the wish to expose the suffering and hopelessness of the working poor in England during the Industrial Revolution. "A Christmas Carol," written in a month's time, contains Dickens' philosophy. He believed in the brotherhood of man, in the necessity of good will in human conduct.

He created "A Christmas Carol" composite characters, brought to us now after more than a century of revision and elaboration. Yet these characters remain powerful and vivid in their original, symbolic stance.

The main characters in "A Christmas Carol" are Ebenezer Scrooge, a miser; Jacob Marley's ghost; Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's clerk; Tiny Tim, Cratchit's son; and Scrooge's nephew.

Seating is limited. For ticket information, call 247-ARTS (2787).



Actors rehearse a scene from 'A Christmas Carol' which will be presented Thursday at Mathis Municipal Auditorium — Contributed Photo.



Lowndes / Valdosta Arts Commission
1204 N. Patterson Street
Post Office Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1966
Phone: (912) 247-ARTS

AN INVITATION TO PRE-SHOW DINNER



DECEMBER 10, 1992 6:30 P.M. MATHIS AUDITORIUM

\$15 ADULTS PRIME RIB DINNER CATERED BY MULLDOONS

- INCLUDES 2 COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS
- HOMEMADE DESSERT BAR

\$6 CHILDRENS' BUFFET (CHILDREN UNDER 12)

- CHICKEN FINGERS
- DESSERT
- TREATS & SURPRISES

RESERVATION BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1992---CALL 247-2787

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE IS APPRECIATED! SEE YOU THERE!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

ADDITIONAL TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE CENTER.



Actors and actresses rehearse a scene in Cratchit's home from 'A Christmas Carol' which will be presented at 8 p.m. today at Mathis Municipal Auditorium. Host is the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission — Photo From Burt Bright.

LIVING & ARTS



Editor Roberta George reads one of the many manuscripts that are submitted for publication in the literary magazine Snake Nation Review. — Will Dickey/staff

SNAKE NATION

A small, well-tended magazine

By Charlie Patton

Staff writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — It started as a joke.

Attending the prestigious Bread Loaf Writers Conference, Roberta George found herself feeling vaguely intimidated. "I was with a bunch of Georgia folks who were feeling like unpublished peons. So I joked I'd start my own review and publish us all."

In the fall of 1989 she did, putting together the first issue of Snake Nation Review, a small literary magazine with offices in an old frame house a few blocks from Valdosta State University.

Holding a copy of Snake Nation Review — or of its latest venture, *Inside, Outside '93*, an anthology issued by Snake Nation Press — two questions leap to mind:

- Why Snake Nation?
- Why Valdosta?

The name Snake Nation comes from a rural road outside Valdosta that Mrs. George used to travel in her days as a reading tutor. She liked the sound of it and appropriated it for her magazine.

As for Valdosta, why not?

It happens to be where they live. Mrs. George, for instance, has been there since 1958, except for a brief stint after her children were grown when she went to Florida State University for post-graduate studies in creative writing. Her fellow editors, Janice Daugherty, Cynthia Everett and Nancy Phillips, are longtime Valdosta residents.

Where the magazine is edited isn't of any great importance, they note. Most of the 1,000 issues they sell each quarter are sold outside Georgia, primarily in New York City. (They have 200 subscribers, including 50 libraries.)

Yet through hard work and enthusiasm, they have put together a publication of genuine literary

Snake Nation Press is soliciting entries for its Annual Spring/Summer Fiction/Poetry Contest, which will offer prizes of \$100 to \$300 for the best stories submitted and \$50 to \$100 for the best poems. There is a \$5 entry fee for stories and a \$1 entry fee for poems. Write to Snake Nation Press, 110 #2 West Force, Valdosta, GA 31601. Annual subscriptions are available for \$15.

style. The anthology *Inside, Outside '93*, for instance, combines the work of Snake Nation Review discoveries like Starkey Flythe, Pam Ball and Victor Miller with work by such highly regarded writers as Padgett Powell, Clyde Edgerton, Joyce Carol Oates, Larry Brown, Mary Hood and Madison Smartt Bell.

"It's been really fun to watch how well [Mrs. George] has done," said Jerome Stern, who teaches creative writing at Florida State and is listed as consulting editor on issues of Snake Nation Review.

"She has done all that follow-up that other people don't do . . . She really is that kind of total editor who understands that there is more to the job than waiting for people to send you stories."

Mrs. Daugherty estimated that 10 to 15 submissions arrive in each day's mail. That's 3,000 to 4,000 stories and poems annually. Of these, 15 to 20 stories and 30 to 40 poems will appear in one of the two semiannual issues of Snake Nation Review.

But every submission will be read by every editor, written comments will be made and personal letters of rejection will be sent out.

Although Mrs. George conceived the review and has the strongest

credentials to edit it — she teaches English at Valdosta State — the decisions on what to publish are made democratically.

"They let me have my gross science fiction stories if I let them have their pompous intellectual stories," Mrs. George joked.

Nobody is getting rich off the Snake Nation Review. Contributors get two free copies of the issue in which their work appeared, and there is an occasional contest or award with prizes of \$50 to \$300. Name writers whose work was solicited for the anthology got \$300 each, though a couple declined.

Individual copies of the review sell for \$6, the anthology is being sold for \$10 and a yearly subscription including both issues of the review and the anthology goes for \$15. With the help of a small grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts, the editors have managed not to lose money while meeting mortgage payments on the review's office.

And they are having fun.

"The [neighbors] must think we're drinking sometimes we're laughing so hard," Mrs. George said.

"This beats the heck out of playing bridge," Mrs. Daugherty said. "And it is very rewarding when you discover some writer of genuine talent."

For Mrs. George, the best moment came during a visit to a bookstore in Tifton, Ga. Side-by-side on the shelves she saw copies of the Snake Nation Review and the Paris Review, the latter, edited by George Plimpton and Peter Matthiessen, being arguably the most famous and successful literary review ever published in the United States.

"I figured that's probably as close as I'll ever get to the Paris Review," Mrs. George said with a laugh.

"There we were, the yin and yang of literature."

6-B Sunday, December 13



Postscript

Snake Nation Premieres

Anthology

If you're looking for a great Christmas gift for someone you love, or one just for yourself, look to Snake Nation Press' first anthology, *Inside, Outside '93*.

Nestled between the covers of this slim volume are 14 jewels — short stories by some very fine writers, as well as 21 compelling pen and ink drawings by area artist Marshall Smith, who also designed the cover. Edited by Roberta George, Janice Daugherty, Cynthia Everett and Nancy Phillips, the anthology is a treasure trove of fiction with each being a perfect entity, a bubble of truth to be savored and discussed with friends, or left to dreaming.

Many of the stories capture Southernness in all its uniqueness. These stories are as readable and credible as your neighbors.

One of my favorites is "Samaritans" by Larry Brown. It's the tale of a man with his own set of problems who encounters some down-in-the-mouth folk traveling cross country to hook up with an absent husband and father.

Brown's characters embody the po' white trash characterization to a T. The woman, a rundown forty-something, pulls into the parking lot of a little tavern where our main character is only trying to drain his sorrows in a few cold ones.

Inside the battered heap with the haggard woman are several grumpy, cranky children and an elderly woman who appears to have seen a few miles herself.

The guy is simply taken in by the younger woman. He doesn't mean to fall for her line, but he does and takes her inside to buy her a beer and provide temporary respite from the insufferable Southern heat. He even gives her smokes.

And as she drones away about the vagaries of her misfortune, he feels terribly uncomfortable and slightly beholden to her, while all he really wants is for her and her brood to drive away out of his life forevermore.

He ends up giving her cash, to feed the kids and keep the car running for the trip to Texas.

And, of course, he is taken for his efforts when the two women head for the bar to drink up the money. It's just so predictable, this slimy side of human nature.

Another story, *The Lost Cause*, by O. Victor Miller, takes place in a bar which any number of us may have visited in our adult lives. Set amongst the tire factory workers of Albany, the watering hole attracts some finely-drawn characters. Calvin, a man with a hook-end prosthesis to replace the arm he lost in the rubber press, is inept at using it and bitter about his circumstances, yet he wouldn't hurt a fly.

So when he accidentally gets his hook into his buddy, Darby's tongue, pandemonium breaks loose. It's realism with a good dose of local color.

Lively Arts

Choral Guild Concert Tuesday

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Valdosta Choral Guild is presenting its annual Christmas Concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

"Music lovers, do we have a treat for you!" said Harriet Crum, president of the Guild. "Once again, there will be songs for everyone: 'Just Beautiful Music' for the Christmas season. Music you will not want to miss!"

Selections range from "Gloria in Excelsis" by Mozart to "The Christmas Song" by Mel Torme to a musical arrangement of Clement Moore's "Twas the Night Before Christmas." The Fourth Grade Chorus of Sallas-Mahone Elementary School will also sing.

"And if all this wonderful music sung so beautifully by your friends and neighbors isn't enough, we have six instruments accompanying us," said Ms. Crum. "Dr. Webster Teague is our conductor, and Andy Daugherty will again be at the piano."

Soloists for the concert include Electa Rickett, Molly Greneker, David Howell, Beth Calhoun, Patti Shufleberger, Ray Kutti, John Akers and Mark Young.

For more than 20 years, Valdosta Choral Guild has provided opportunities in vocal performance to area singers, Ms. Crum said. While the organization's name has changed occa-

'Under the umbrella of Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, the Valdosta Choral Guild has enjoyed organizational growth and an increase in community support. The group looks forward to its next 20 years of providing 'just beautiful music.'

— Harriet Crum
Choral Guild President

sionally, the goal has remained the same: to perform quality music in a quality manner — "just beautiful music."

The Choral Guild is open to all interested singers, and its current group of 50 performers includes housewives and professors, ministers and stockbrokers, students and retirees, business people and teachers. Singers drive as much as 50 miles each way to participate in the weekly rehearsals from September to spring.

The Guild has traditionally performed twice a year, a holiday concert in December and a spring performance of 'pop,' Broadway and light opera melodies. In recent years, the membership has made itself available to local groups in smaller program formats, singing for Rotary Spouse Night, the Leadership Lowndes program, a local bank's banquet and the Olympic Flag Day Celebration program.

The group has also "taken its show in the road," traveling to Savannah to perform "Beethoven's 9th Symphony" with the Savannah Orchestra and

Chorus, and to Amelia Island for a joint chorus presentation of Americana with the Amelia Island Chorale.

"In order to mount concerts of quality music, music literature is purchased, a trained director and accompanist receive stipends, and concert halls and personnel are hired," said Ms. Crum. "These costs are met through membership dues and ticket sales. The Choral Guild also enjoys and appreciates the support of over 50 patrons and sponsors."

"Under the umbrella of Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, the Valdosta Choral Guild has enjoyed organizational growth and an increase in community support. The group looks forward to its next 20 years of providing 'just beautiful music.'"

Single tickets are \$5; for 10 or more, \$4; and for students, \$3. They are available by calling any member of the Choral Guild, Harriet Crum at 794-2155 or Kathy Young at 249-8816, and they will be available at the door or at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.

The Valdosta Daily Times



Choral Guild members are excited about their annual Christmas Concert set for 8 p.m. Tuesday at Mathis Municipal Auditorium — Photo from Harriet Crum.

Reception Jan. 4 For Water Colorist

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Artist Nancy M. Kent, a member of the American Portrait Society, is the featured artist at the Cultural Arts Center for the month of January.

The opening reception for the artist and exhibit will be from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Jan. 4, hosted by The Cultural Arts Guild. Another open house reception will be hosted by the Valdosta Junior Service League from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 10.

"David Leon, owner of Artist's Round Table, will be displaying his embroidery machine, which is operated by computer and generates computer images, at this reception," said Burt Bright, executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

According to her resume, Ms. Kent has studied with nationally renown artists Dan Greene and Burt Silverman of New York. She is also a member of the National Watercolor Society, the Southern Watercolor Society and the American Academy of Equine Art.

She has exhibited her work at The Museum of Hounds and Hunting, Leesburg, Va.; Churchill Downs, Louisville, Ky.; The Cloister, Sea Island; The Wexford Gallery, Charleston, S.C.; The Klausner/Cooperage Gallery, Louisville, Ky., and The Museum of the South, Mobile, Ala.

"David Leon, owner of Artist's Round Table, will be displaying his embroidery machine, which is operated by computer and generates computer images, at (Jan. 10) reception."

— Burt Bright
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission

Ms. Kent maintains studios in Gibson and in Aiken, S.C. She has work published by Southeast Polo Club, Rose Hill Polo Club, The Lyman Gallery Publishing Co., *Seabreeze Magazine*, and *Aiken County Magazine*.

Corporate collectors of her work include Westinghouse; Holiday Inn; Rose Hill Plantation Development Corp., Hilton Head, S.C.; River North Development Corp., Macon; The Macon Telegraphy, Limehouse Properties, Charleston, S.C.; Exchange Bank of Milledgeville; Cantalou Associates, Aiken, S.C.; Potamkin Cadillac, Atlanta; Thiele Kaolin Co., Sandersville; Wilcox Inn, Aiken, S.C.; Lamar T. Webb, St. Simons Island; and Crone Properties, Athens.

Her exhibit will be on view during January. Hours of the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special tours can be arranged by calling 247-ARTS.



'Master of the Hunt' painted by water colorist Nancy M. Kent will be on exhibit at the Cultural Arts Center throughout January — Photo from Burt Bright.



'Miss Idel' and other paintings of Nancy Kent will be on display at a reception Jan. 4 at the Cultural Arts Center — Photo from Burt Bright.

PETER PAN

THE HIGH-FLYING BROADWAY MUSICAL!

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THE HIGH-FLYING BROADWAY MUSICAL

Based On a Play By
JAMES M. BARRIE

Lyrics By **CAROLYN LEIGH** Music By **MARK CHARLAP**

Additional Music By
JULE STYNE

Additional Lyrics By
BETTY COMDEN and **ADOLPH GREEN**

Directed By
JEFFREY B. MOSS

MATHIS CITY AUDITORIUM

Tuesday, January 26, 1993 8:00 P.M.

Tickets Available: 1204 N. Patterson St. \$20.00

Phone: 247-2787

Presented by Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission



Kristine Harnage

This 'n That

Creative Writing Courses At Arts Center In Feb.

The question asked of me the most when people find out I'm a newspaper reporter is, "Have you always wanted to be a writer?"

I used to answer, "No, I changed my mind several times while growing up — from wanting to be a nurse, to a stewardess, to a pediatrician, to a teacher."

But one person who asked me that question also asked me if I kept a journal. I answered, "Yes, I've been keeping one since I was 7 years old, although I used to call it a diary." And she said to me, "Well, you *have* always wanted to be a writer. You just didn't know it!"

You know, I guess she's right. When I was in second grade, my older sister, Trisha, was in fourth and started keeping a diary. Being the typical little sister, I wanted to do everything she did, so I started keeping my own diary (it was a five-year diary, which allowed only two to three line entries). I still have it and the six other journals I've filled through the past 18 years.

I used to be determined to make an entry every single day, but realized that that was impossible. Sometimes I had nothing to say, other times I would forget, and sometimes I was just too tired at the end of the day to write anything.

Now, I make an entry when something exciting, important or monumental happens in my life or when I just need to jot down a few thoughts.

Needless to say, my current journal (which is only supposed to be long enough for one year) was started in August 1991 and is only three-fourths full! Maybe I will take the class Roberta George is offering.

Mrs. George of Snake Nation Press and the South Georgia Writers Guild will be teaching a creative writing class at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., from noon to 2 p.m. Feb. 6.

These classes will emphasize journal and memoir writing: the recalling and recording of personal and family history and how to use these two sources for stories, poems and articles. The classes will be for the beginning writer and the professional, the person who plans to write for publication or just for the sake of keeping family stories alive to pass down to future generations of sons and daughters.

The classes will meet every Saturday during February from noon to 2 p.m. The fee is \$30, with light refreshments included. For more information, call the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission at 247-2787 or Roberta George at 249-9334.

Mrs. George also spoke at the Jan. 13 meeting of the Arts Department of Wymodausis, chaired by Susan Castelos. She was invited to speak about Snake Nation Press' latest publication, an anthology titled *Inside, Outside '93*, featuring some of today's most recognized living authors: Joyce Carol Oates, Madison Smartt Bell, Larry Brown, Mary Hood, Shay Youngblood, Clyde Edgerton and others. Twenty-two special drawings by Marshall Smith of Alapaha also lend extra beauty and understanding to these stories.

Mrs. George was pleased to announce to the department that Penn State, Mercer University, Florida State University and Valdosta State College are using *Inside, Outside '93* as a creative writing textbook.

"If you want to read examples of the best writing being done in the United States today, take a look at *Inside, Outside '93*," she said.

Books are on sale at the Book Worm, Waldenbooks and KMart or may be ordered from Snake Nation Press, 110, No. 2, W. Force St., Valdosta, GA 31601.

■ ■ ■

Until next week ... you heard it here first!

■ ■ ■

Kristine Harnage is a staff writer for *The Times*. Her column appears Sundays.

Burton Bright, Executive Director
 Wilby Coleman, Chairman of the
 Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission
 Dorothy Feadman, Chairman of the
 Cultural Arts Guild

If you're looking for that perfect, unique and original gift, the Gallery Shop is just the place! There are hand-painted silk scarves, ceramics, paintings, jewelry, cards, and many other fine hand-crafted things.

Hours: 10-5, Monday thru Friday, and by special appointment.

Guided tours for organized groups of varying ages are available throughout the 1992-93 calendar year. Reservations are required for large groups. The Arts Center encourages interested persons to visit 'on their own.'

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Cultural Center, call or write to:
 Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center
 P.O. Box 1966
 Valdosta, Ga. 31603
 (912) 247-2787

Performances featuring Broadway and International performers.

Arts festival

The Great Hahira Pick-In

Choral Guild Performances

Theatre Guild performances

Southern Artists League Exhibitions

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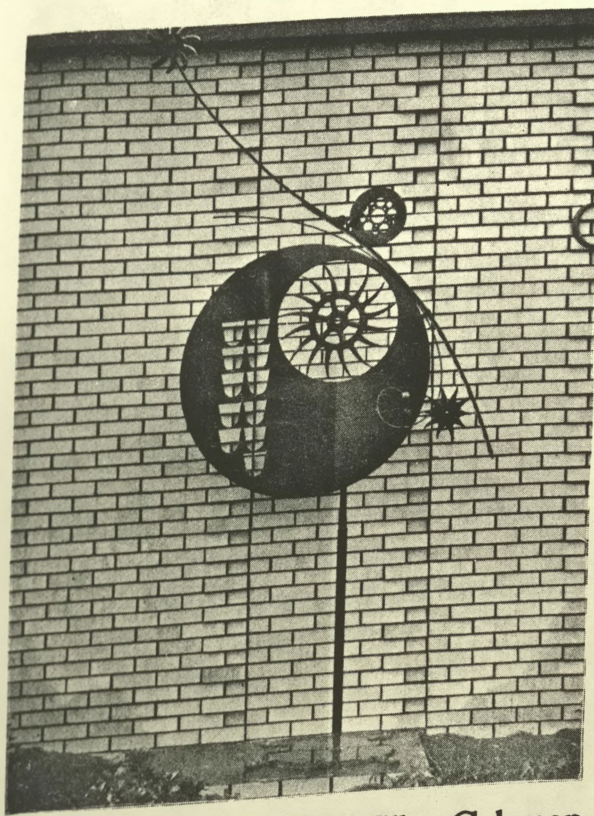
Writers Guild Poetry and Fiction Readings

Home of the largest Hot Air Balloon Rally in the Southeast, April 15-18, 1993.

Come by the Convention & Visitor's Bureau for Local, Area, and Statewide Information:
 1703 Norman Drive, Suite F
 Ext 5
 Valdosta, GA 31602
 Phone: 245-0513

Southern Charm
Valdosta, Ga.
 not gone with the Wind

The Cultural Arts Center 1993



"Dawat" Sculpture by Wilby Coleman

1204 North Patterson St.
 Valdosta, Ga.
 (912) 247-ARTS

(Two blocks South from the College)

January

Nancy Kent--"Wet is beautiful!" Award winning watercolor illustrator and portraiture, and a member of the National Watercolor Society, she has published and exhibited throughout the Southeast. She has recently exhibited in Jekyll Island & Hilton Head, South Carolina. A spectrum of color.

February

Quilting--"More than warmth." The Withlacoochee Quilters Guild will be exhibiting a comfortable collection of quality quilts.

March

Southeastern Pastel Society--"We are soft on Art." The society recently exhibited in Atlanta and Stone Mountain. Formed in 1987, it is dedicated to promoting pastel as a medium in the Southeast. This is one exhibit you won't want to pass up.

April

Steve Andersen--"Penny Farthing Art." A professor of art at Valdosta State College, he has exhibited throughout the states. A rendition of his design for the Lowndes County Human Resource Building is now part of the Atlanta Committee Olympic Games permanent exhibit. Enjoy the ride!

May

The "Best of the 1st State Bank Show"--The juried portion of this event will be on display at the Center. We know you will want to check out this exciting display of 2 and 3 dimensional award winning art.

June

Ouida Lampert/Becky Young--"Artistic License." Works by artists Ouida Duke Lampert and R.K. Young in multiple disciplines. A delightful display with humor and depth. Highlights include paintings on silk and mixed media works. No speeding!

July/August

Workshops--Special displays and programs.

August (2 weeks)

Southern Artists League--"Best of the best." Local artists display their latest work the last two weeks in August.

Receptions for exhibits are usually the 1st Monday the month of the exhibit, and are open to the public. For more information call 247-ARTS.

September

Stephen Lahr & Wilby Coleman & Lanny Milbrandt--"3 is a Charm." A multi-media display which will include found-object art, watercolor, and finely finished jewelry.

October

Artoberfest--It's Artoberfest time! This will be our Third Annual Theme Show. Ask anyone who's been there.

November

It's Art--(High School Competition)--The 4th annual "Our High School Students Can Paint And Sketch Too!" A celebration of student art in conjunction with Winnersville week.

Nov./December

Rusty Hall--An internationally recognized artist will have scenes and studies for a show titled "A Sign of the Times."

For further information visit the Cultural Arts Center, or call 247-ARTS.

The Valdosta Daily Times



Burton Bright, Executive Director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, explains a quilt display to Caroline Ballard, Executive Director of the Georgia Council for the Arts -- Times Photo by Jeff Allen

New Arts Director Makes Valdosta Stop

Valdosta, Ga. (AP) -- Burton Bright, Executive Director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, has made a stop in Valdosta to meet with the Georgia Council for the Arts. Bright, who has been in the position for a year, is in Valdosta for a year. His previous career includes holding a managerial position at the Atlanta Executive Arts Center and being director of the Governor's mansion. The Georgia Council for the Arts provides funding through legislation and grants for arts and art organizations around the state and, as its executive director of the council, Ms. Ballard said her position is a public relations-type position, as well as a decision-making one. "I'm not in charge of deciding where the funding goes. Other people decide that," she said. "There are decisions for funding and every aspect of an... cultural programming. I'm in charge of those decisions. It's such an important position for the arts in the state and the responsibility is great, but I'm looking forward to the challenge." Ms. Ballard's goals for the council include continuing what has been done before her, seeing that the arts continue to thrive and finding new ways to give more exposure at the statewide level. Her visit to Valdosta was through the invitation of ArtSouth. A dinner was held for her Thursday evening at the Center. It was there she held a press conference where she told the council and the community how pleased she was with the way of state support for the arts in the future.





Earle McKey's art, above, will be among that of the Southern Artists League on display during August at the Arts Center - Photo from Burt Bright.



'St. Thomas At Sunset' by Irene Dodd will be among the art featured in 'The Best of the First State Bank Show' at the Arts Center in May - Photo from Burt Bright.

Enjoy The Arts All Year Long!

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., is celebrating its third anniversary Feb. 2 and has much to offer in exhibits this year.

Currently, artist Nancy Kent's exhibit, "Wet is beautiful," is on display and will be until the end of the month. Award-winning watercolor illustrator and portraiture and a member of the National Watercolor Society, Ms. Kent has published and exhibited throughout the Southeast.

February brings the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild's "More than warmth" display.

They will be exhibiting a comfortable collection of quality quilts, said Burton K. Bright, executive director of the Cultural Arts Center.

March hosts the Southeastern Pastel Society's "We are soft on Art." The society recently exhibited in Atlanta and Stone Mountain. Formed in 1987, it is dedicated to promoting pastel as a medium in the Southeast.

This is one exhibit you won't want to pass up, said Bright.

Stephen Andersen's "Penny Farthing Art" will be on display the month of April. A professor of art at Valdosta State College, he has exhibited throughout the states. A rendition of his design for the Lowndes County Human Resources Building is now part of the Atlanta Committee Olympic Games permanent exhibit.

May brings "The Best of the 1st State Show." The juried portion of this event will be on display at the Center.

We know you will want to check out this exciting display of two- and three-dimensional award-winning art, said Bright.

Ouida Lampert and Becky Young present their exhibit "Artistic License" the month of June. Works by these two artists in multiple disciplines will be on display.

It will be a delightful display with humor and depth, said Bright. Highlights include paintings on silk and mixed media works.

July and August will once again host summer workshops, special displays and programs.

During the last two weeks of August, the Southern Artist's League's "Best of the best" exhibit will be on display. Local artists display their latest work.

September brings the exhibit "3 is a Charm" by J. Stephen Lahr, Wilby Coleman and Lanny Milbrandt - a multi-media display, which will include found-object art, watercolor and finely finished jewelry.

The annual Artoberfest will once again take place during the month of October. "This will be our third annual theme show," said Bright. "Ask anyone who's been there!"

November hosts the 4th annual Our High School Students Can Paint and Sketch Too! - a celebration of student art in conjunction with Winnersville Week.

Also, in November and in December too, will be an exhibit by Rusty Hall. Hall is an internationally recognized artist who will have scenes and studies for a show titled "A Sign of the Times" on display, said Bright.

Receptions for exhibits are usually the first Monday of the month of the exhibit and are open to the public. The Center hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and by special appointment.

For more information, visit the Cultural Arts Center or call 247-ARTS.



'Mr. Nelson' is among the watercolors of Nancy Kent featured this month at the Cultural Arts Center - Photo from Burt Bright.



Joyce Nagel's 'Marsh Mooring' will be among the offerings in March at the Cultural Arts Center - Photo from Burt Bright.



The artwork of Ouida Duke Lampert and R.K. Young, such as that pictured above, will accent the Cultural Arts Center during June - Photo from Burt Bright.

Peter Pan's Flying In

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission will present the National Touring Musicals' production, "Peter Pan," the high-flying Broadway musical, at Mathis Municipal Auditorium at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

This musical comedy version of Sir James Matthew Barrie's invocation to the magic world of Never-Never Land retains the whimsical flavor of the original, spiced with the gutsy exuberance characteristic of modern American musicals, states National Touring Musicals (NTM), of New York, N.Y., in a press release.

It is the version in which Mary Martin first starred as Peter in New York during the 1954-55 season, and the version in the first great television spectacular on a nationwide network in the spring of 1955 and then on Broadway again in 1991-92.

"The story of Peter Pan, the little boy who wouldn't grow up, has not been altered," states NTM. "The Darling children will fly right out of their nursery window to partake of his adventure on make-believe island populated with fearsome pirates, renegade Indians and weird animals."

"Tinker Bell, the entrancing little fairy who speaks only with blinking lights and tinkling sounds, is still on hand to save the children from a terrible fate. Wendy mothers the little lost boys. Peter does noble battle with the wicked pirates, the ticking crocodile pursues Captain Hook — and good still triumphs over evil."

According to the press release from NTM, Barrie was born in 1860 at Kircubston, Scotland, and he died in 1937. After graduation from Edinburgh University, he became a newspaperman, first in Nottingham, then in London.

His first book, *Better Dead*, was published when he was 27 years old. The following year, he published a book called *Auld Licht Idylls*,

sketches about his native village, which he called Thrums, a fictional community that he was to write about often as the years passed.

The play, "Peter Pan," grew out of an episode that appeared in Barrie's novel, *The Little White Bird*, published in 1902, about "a boy who never grew up." Its first production occurred in London in 1904, and its American production, with Maude Adams as Peter Pan in a performance that has since become one of the greatest legends of the American Theatre, took place the same year.

Miss Adams appeared in the play two subsequent occasions — in 1912 and again in 1915. Other actresses who portrayed Peter Pan on Broadway were Marilyn Miller, Eva LeGallienne, Jean Arthur, Sandy Duncan (longest running at 550 performances) and Cathy Rigby.

Melissa Giantino will portray Peter Pan in the production coming to Valdosta. To Barrie's ingratiating flight of fancy have been added light-some dance numbers and an epilogue he wrote for the book but did not originally use in the play, states NTM.

A wealth of enchanting songs are also featured, like the delicate lullaby "Tender Shepherd," the joyous "I'm Flying" sung by Peter and the children as they commence their historic flight to Neverland and the droll nonsense song "Ugg a Wogg," by which the English-speaking children and some hopefully fierce Indian children try to communicate.

Also included are "Mysterious Lady," sung by Captain Hook to a disguised Peter, "I Won't Grow Up," the theme song of the stubborn little boys and the rich tribute to "Never Land" rendered in sentimental tones by Peter.

Tunesmiths Mark Charlap and Carolyn Leigh composed many of these songs, states NTM, with Jules Styne and Betty Comden and Adolph Green of the Will Rogers Folies contributing others.



'Tiger Lily,' left, is pictured with 'Peter' performed Tuesday at Mathis Auditorium — National Touring Musicals Photo.

Pastels Accent Canvas Of Nashville Artist

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Representing the Southern Artist's League for the month of February as The Times Artist of the Month is Patsy Hickox of Nashville.

A pastel artist, Mrs. Hickox began painting as a teen-ager in Waycross under the supervision of instructor Bill Hendrix of St. Simons Island but claims that she was inspired by her family to paint after putting it on the back burner for 35 years.

Her sister-in-law, Ann Odum, who is a pastel artist in Gwinnett County, has encouraged her to try pastel painting and has given her many lessons. With the encouragement of her husband, family and friends, Mrs. Hickox said she painted Nashville landmarks for the city's centennial.

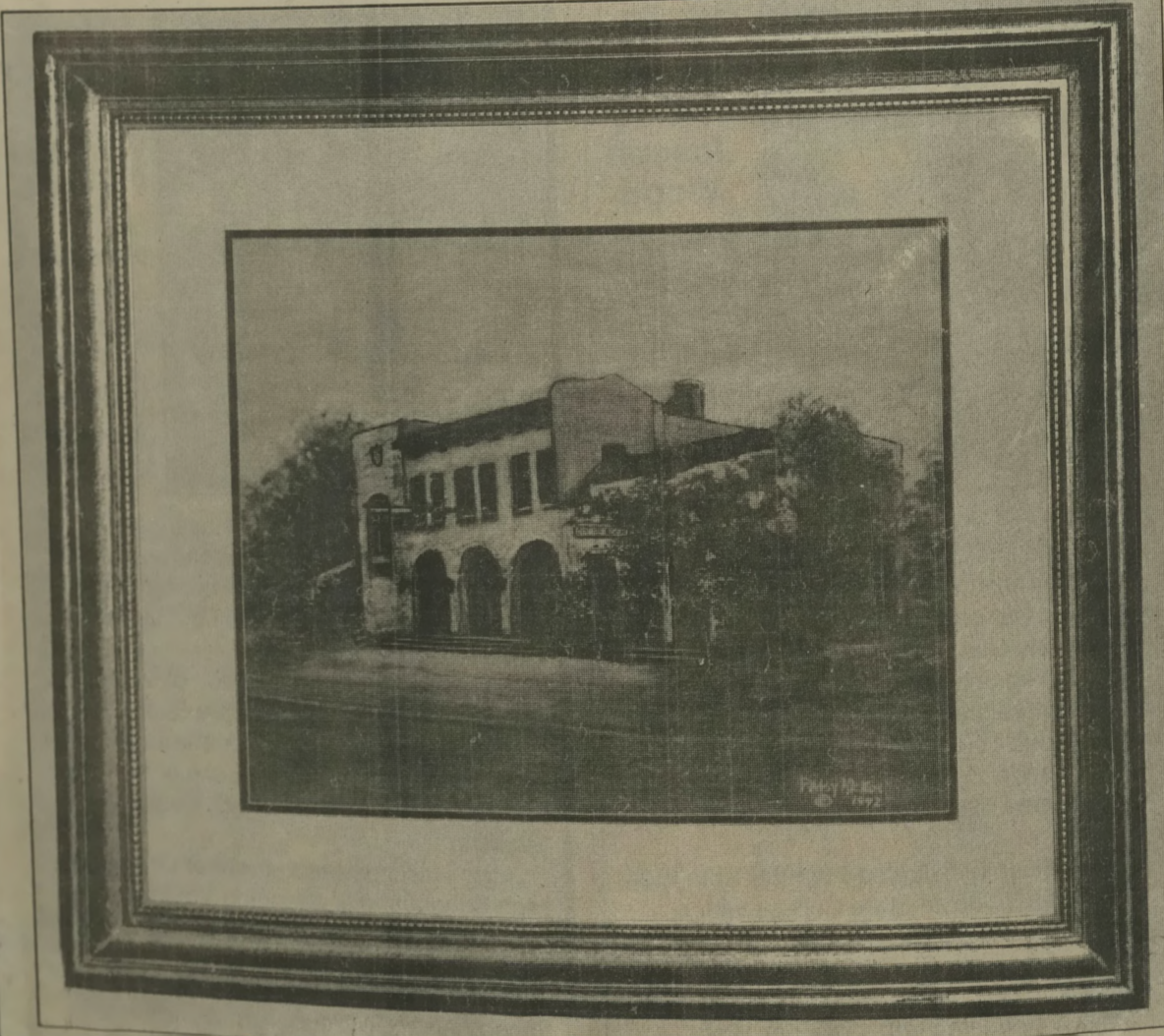
The two works by Mrs. Hickox displayed in the front office of The Valdosta Daily Times building are entitled "Spring Elegance" and "Nashville Hotel." "Spring Elegance" was painted from a photograph of

Calloway Gardens, and "Nashville Hotel" was painted from an old photograph, she said. The old hotel is one in a series of eight paintings of the Old Nashville Series she has done.

Originally from Waycross, Mrs. Hickox moved to Nashville in 1970. She attended Brenau College in Gainesville and is a member of the Southern Artist League and the Southern Pastel Society. She is employed with the Berrien County Board of Education superintendent's office. She is married to Virgil Hickox, and they have two daughters, Rebecca and Amy.

"My paintings are regional landscapes, houses, landmarks and old banks," she said. "I enjoy realistic paintings but recently have been trying impressionistic work, which I enjoy because of the freedom of style and the vibrant colors."

Her work can be seen displayed locally with the Southern Artist's League and the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.



Patsy Hickox's 'Nashville Hotel' was painted from an old photograph. The old hotel is one of the Old Nashville Series paintings she has done — Times Photo.



"Spring Elegance" is one of Patsy Hickox's paintings on display in the lobby of 'The Valdosta Daily Times' during February — Times Staff Photo.

African Artifacts

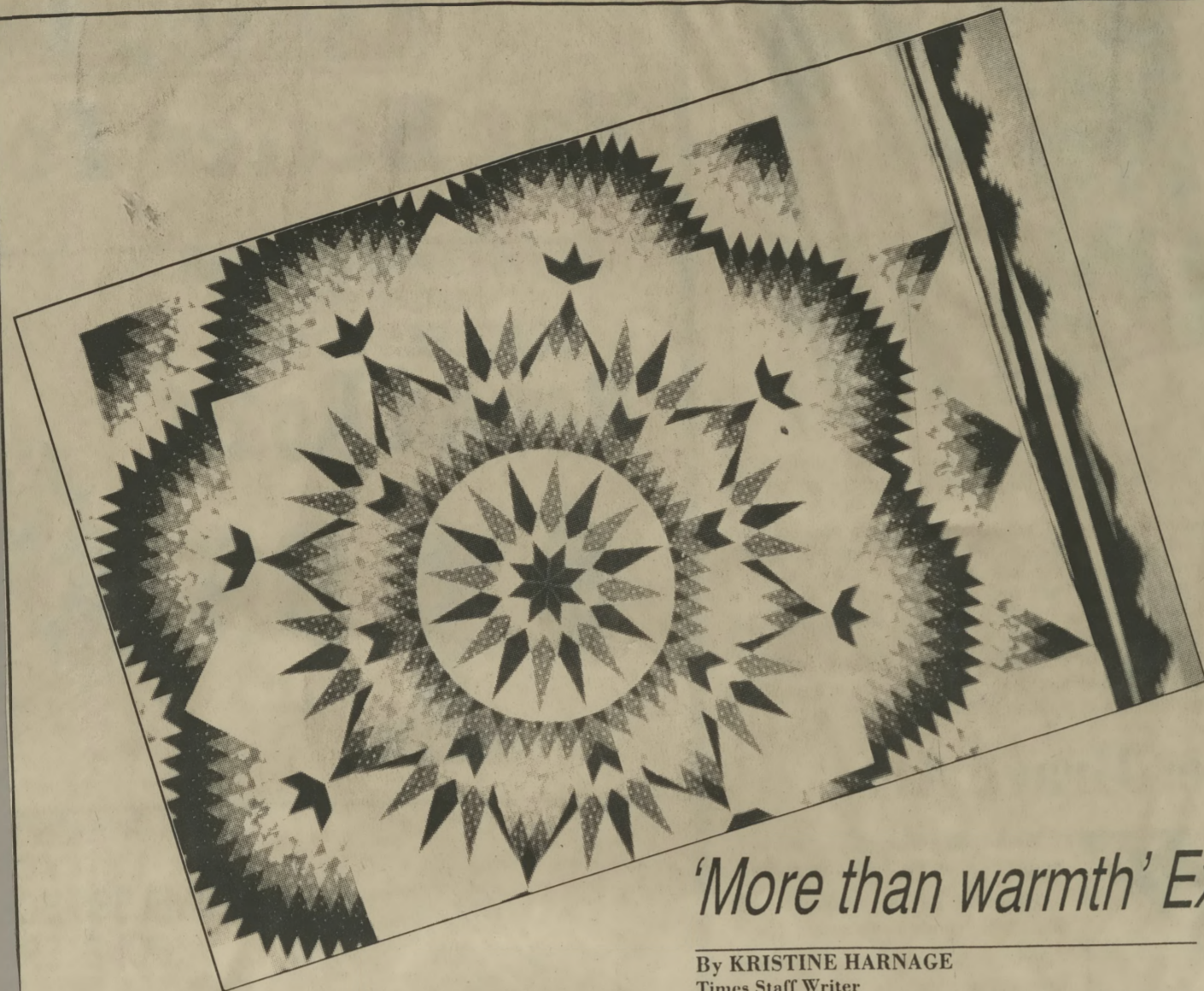
In honor of Black History Month, the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center has on display artifacts from East and West Africa.

Included in the exhibit are carvings from the Makonde Tribe of Tanzania. Makonde sculptures have images created to convey a message which is original. These are signs of the art of every day living. The expressionistic carvings depict highly dramatic images portraying the struggle between good and evil, reason and passion, love and hatred. These pieces of art are on loan from the collection of J. D. Tillman.

Also on display are artifacts from the private collection of Eziakonwa (Azi) Odunze. These carvings and artifacts are from Ghana and Liberia.

Burton Bright, executive director of LVAC said, "We encourage the school children of our community to enjoy these rare pieces of art at the Cultural Arts Center."

Located at 1204 N. Patterson St., hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For further information call 247-4787.



Quilt Show

'More than warmth' Exhibit At Arts Center

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., will feature the exhibit, "More than warmth," by the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild during February.

The Guild will be exhibiting a comfortable collection of quality quilts, said Burt Bright, executive director of the Cultural Arts Center. A reception will be held from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Monday and is open to the public.

The Withlacoochee Quilters Guild was organized in September 1986. Meeting monthly, the members shared quilting projects and ideas. In support of Valdosta State College, a quilting seminar with Georgia Bonesteel, author and television instructor from North Carolina, was held in April 1987.

Each following year, similar seminars brought well-known quilting instructors to Valdosta to show members new and exciting ways to make quilts, said Bright.

The Guild increased activities to include quilt shows, donation quilts, community gift quilts, workshops, challenge wall hangings, applique and Trapunto techniques. Besides the evening meetings once a month, each week a group of quilters meet at South Georgia Regional Library in the morning.

Many of the members instruct in the specialties they have learned in quilt workshops. In the six years of learning traditional methods of patchwork, quilting and

discovering new ideas and designs, Guild members are anticipating a future of individual, as well as, group participation.

"There is something special about gathering around the quilting frame or around a table working on individual projects," states the guild. "Quilting draws together a strand of scraps. It nourishes the art of togetherness."

Facts from the guild: On Jan. 2, 1788, Georgia ratified the U.S. Constitution, becoming the fourth state. Georgians have made many quilts during the past two centuries, and they have named a few patterns for their state, its history and its assets.

Before the European colonists arrived, the Creek and Cherokee Indian tribes has settled the land. The Cherokee are remembered today in the state flower, The Cherokee Rose (one pattern used on a quilt). The state bird is the Brown Thrasher. Although there is no specific pattern, Birds In The Air (another pattern used on a quilt) from Finley does nicely if the birds (triangles) are shades of brown.

For further information on the exhibit or the Cultural Arts Center, call 247-ARTS. The Arts Center hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and by special appointment. Guided tours for organized groups of varying ages are available throughout the year. Reservations are required for large groups.

"The Arts Center encourages interested person to visit 'on their own,'" said Bright.

Pastels Color Canvases In LVAC Show

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission is hosting the Southeastern Pastel Society's 1993 Members Exhibition through March 31 at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.

The winners of the 1993 show are Mikki Dillon, first place for "Cat-Matissee," Camilla "Cam" Stoltz, second place for "Pigeon River" and Jane A. Gibout, third place for "Alone." Honorable mentions go to Kay Y. Robb for "Katy I," Junko Rothwell for "Reclining Nude" and Susan H. Smith for "Keisha."

The exhibition was juried by Dr. J. Stephen Lahr, a professor of art in the School of the Arts at Valdosta State College.

Lahr received his undergraduate degree and post graduate degrees in art and education at the University of Nebraska and his post doctoral in education administration from the University of Missouri. He has been associated with art education and administra-

tion since 1968 and is a board member of LVAC.

"Soft on Art" is the title of the March exhibit at the Center. Pastel is a medium which, according to LVAC Executive Director Burt Bright, is "boldly dynamic or delicately intricate."

"A medium whose immediacy makes it uncomplicated and whose versatility makes it unlimited. A medium with an incredible range of colors, capable of producing rich, deep tones. These capabilities, and more, are responsible for the Renaissance of pastel."

Bright said although pastel is a very old medium, it is now enjoying a new popularity. He said today increasing numbers of artists are using pastel as their primary medium, instead of as a preliminary tool. The multiple techniques of pastel number as many as the artists who are using it.

"Beautiful textures, vibrant colors, expressive strokes and sensitive modeling are part of the pastel's appeal to the artist," said Bright. "Pastel artists are free from the hassles of tedious preparation, technical details and drying time. The permanency of pastel

contributes to its value as an important medium. The possibilities of this medium are endless, reaching as far as the artist's ingenuity will go."

Headquarters for the Southeastern Pastel Society is at 662 Dorsey Circle, Lilburn. The Society was established in 1987 and is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting pastel as a medium in the Southeast. SPS plays a vital part in the Renaissance of pastel by providing an important channel of communication and an environment in which the pastel artist may flourish.

Through the SPS International Juried Exhibitions, juried member shows and the monthly meetings, members enjoy sharing knowledge, learning new techniques and passing on published information. The informative programs at the monthly meetings cover such areas as artists' demonstrations, promoting and exhibiting artwork and innovative pastel techniques.

Center hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Special tours can be arranged through the Center. For more information, call 247-2787.



'Zucchini Blossom'
S. Krach



'It's Your Turn'
Virginia Munroe



'Gatsby Auction Hall'
Martha Bator

3-7-93 Valdosta Times

CULTURAL CORNER

A Letter To All Local Artists
Dear Artist,
The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission invites you to participate in the 1993 Valdosta Spring Arts Exhibit.

We look forward to your participation. Any questions should be directed to Burton K. Bright, Executive Director, LVAC (912) 247-2787.

SOFT ON ART

The exhibit is in two phases. The initial exhibit of 190 two and three dimensional works will be hung at the First State Bank & Trust Co. and will remain up from April 14 through April 30, 1993. Acceptance in the initial exhibit is on a first come, first served basis upon execution and return of the application and a \$25 fee. This Exhibit will be introduced to the public by the elegant annual Champagne-Castellight preview party on April 13 which you and one guest are invited to attend as our guests.

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, Valdosta, GA. is hosting the Southeastern Pastel Society's 1993 Members Exhibition, March 1-31, 1993. A reception will be held on March 1 from 5pm-7pm, and is open to the public. The exhibition was juried by J. Stephen Lehr, E.D.D., a professor of Art at Valdosta State College School of the Arts. Doctor Lehr received his under graduate and post graduate degrees in Art and Education at the University of Nebraska and his Post Doctoral in Educational Administration from the University of Missouri.

Although pastel is a very old medium, it is now enjoying a new popularity. Today, increasing numbers of artists are using pastel as their primary medium, instead of as a preliminary tool. The multiple techniques of pastel number as many as the artists who are using it. Beautiful textures, vibrant colors, expressive strokes and sensitive modeling are part of the pastel's appeal to the artist. Pastel artists are free from the hassles of tedious preparation, technical details and drying time. The permanence of pastel contributes to its value as an important medium. The possibilities of this medium are endless, reaching as far as the artist's ingenuity will go.

Doctor Lehr has been associated with art education and administration since 1968. Dr. Lehr is a board member of Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

THE PASTEL RENAISSANCE AND THE SOUTHEASTERN PASTEL SOCIETY.

A medium which is boldly dynamic or delicately intricate. A medium whose immediacy makes it uncomplicated and whose versatility makes it

unlimiting. A medium with an incredible range of colors, capable of producing rich, deep tones. These capabilities, and more are responsible for the Renaissance of Pastel.

ings, members enjoy sharing knowledge, learning new techniques and passing on published information. The informative programs at the monthly meetings cover such areas as artists' demonstrations, promoting and exhibiting artwork, and innovative pastel

ATLANTA SYMPHONY
In Concert
March 16, 1993
Call 247-ARTS

SOUTHERN ARTIST LEAGUE

The Southern Artists League, Inc. is a non-profit organization of local artists, both professional and amateur, centrally based in Valdosta, Ga. Founded in 1989 by then President Ouida Duke Lampert, S.A.L. has grown considerably in membership and community standing in a very short time.

S.A.L. consists of artists of all media and supporting members of the community, as well as art patrons. The group has its central office in the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission building, Burton Bright, director, located at 1204 N. Patterson Street. This is also where S.A.L. has both its Board and Membership meetings.

S.A.L.'s main purpose is to promote quality original art for sale and/or exhibition and to educate the general public about all aspects of art. S.A.L. is also a basic support group for and of artists to promote idea exchange, to create an outlet for career expansion and to generate public awareness of fine art.

Since its founding, S.A.L. has been involved in many community projects.

Headquarters for the Southeastern Pastel Society is located at 662 Dorsey Circle, Lilburn, GA 30247. The Society was established in 1987, and is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting pastel as a medium in the Southeast. SPS plays a vital part in the Re-

Theatre Guild

Theatre Guild, the local community theatre, is now under way in its fourth season. One of four organizations under the umbrella of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, the Theatre Guild was established in 1989. The first production was *The Mousetrap*, which LVAC produced in conjunction with the 1989 Spring Arts Festival.

Following the original production, LVAC Theatre Guild was organized as a separate group, operating independently of, but cooperatively with, the Arts Commission, to enhance the artistic and cultural quality of community life in Valdosta and the surrounding area. In addition to producing four or five shows a season, members of the Guild conduct theatre workshops for children and adults, participate in outreach programs like In-School visitors, and have developed a program to encourage school teachers to get their students to come see more theatre through its own Great Plays Program.

Theatre Guild is open to all who wish to join. The members do a variety of things. Some do the technical work like building, painting, setting lights and running sound equipment. Others act or direct. There are those who run the box office, usher, and manage the "house." Some members support us simply by joining and coming to see shows. The only requirements to belong to Theatre Guild are an annual ten dollar membership fee and a love for the theatre. Meetings of the Guild are held the first Thursday of each month at the old Dosta Theatre in downtown Valdosta. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. Guild business is taken care of by a ten member Board of Directors elected by the membership. The board meetings are held a day prior to the general membership meetings and as needed. The Board of Directors for the 92-93 season are:

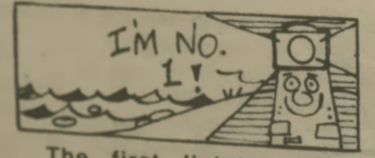
- President - Jerry Ellis
- Vice President - Mary Ann Green
- Secretary - Denise Stegwee
- Treasurer - Malcolm Rainey
- Publisher/PR Chair - Joanne Griner
- Membership/Tickets Chair - Michael Lowe
- Site Search Chair - John Deming
- Play Selection Chair - David Ince
- Member-at-large - Kay Jenner
- LVAC Liaison - Dr. John Youmans

Theatre Guild began as, and until recently was, a gypsy group. Having no permanent home, Guild productions have been rehearsed, constructed and performed at various sites all over Lowndes County. Theatre Guild has a building of its own. The Guild recently purchased the old Martin Theatre, more commonly known to Valdostans as the "Dosta Theatre" in downtown Valdosta. Extensive renovations and a great deal of hard work will be needed to turn this old movie theatre into a playhouse. The members of the LVAC Theatre Guild are enthusiastic about its future and invite everyone to come join in the excitement.

CULTURAL CENTER EXHIBITS

1993

March
Southeastern Pastel Society—The Society recently exhibited in Atlanta and Stone Mountain. Formed in 1987, it is dedicated to promoting pastel as a medium in the Southeast.



The first lighthouse in America was Boston Light-house, on Little Brewster Island in Boston Harbor. First lit in 1716, it was destroyed during the Revolutionary War, but another lighthouse was built on the site in 1783 and still stands.

Valdosta Choral Guild

For over twenty years, Valdosta Choral Guild has provided opportunities in vocal performance to area singers. While the organization's name has changed occasionally, the goal has remained the same: to perform quality music in a quality manner - "Just beautiful music."

The Choral Guild is open to all interested singers, and its current group of 50 performers includes housewives and professors, ministers and stockbrokers, students and retirees, business people and members. Singers drive as much as 50 miles each way to participate in the weekly rehearsals from September to spring.

The Guild has traditionally performed twice annually, a holiday concert in December and a spring performance of "pop", Broadway, and light opera melodies. In recent years, the membership has made itself available to local groups in smaller program formats, singing for Rotary spouse night, the Leadership Lowndes program, a local bank's banquet, and the Olympic Flag Celebration program.

The group has also "taken its show on the road," travelling to Savannah to perform Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Savannah Orchestra and Chorus, and to Amelia Island for a joint chorus presentation of Americans with the Amelia Island Chorus.

In order to mount concerts of quality music, music literature is purchased, a trained director and accompanist receive stipends, concert halls and personnel are hired. These costs are met through membership dues and ticket sales. The Choral Guild also enjoys and appreciates the support of over 50 patrons and sponsors.

Under the umbrella of Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, the Valdosta Choral Guild has enjoyed organizational growth and an increase in community support. The group looks forward to its next twenty years of providing "Just beautiful music."



VALDOSTA CITY SCHOOLS
P. O. Box 5407
Valdosta, Georgia 31603

Burton Bright
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission
P.O. Box 1966
Valdosta, GA 31603-1966



CPIE PALS' UPDATE

Many Partners-At-Large (PALs) have been very involved with area schools this year. The following is a summary of what several PALs are doing to assist our schools and students.

Travel for the numerous brochures, magazines, posters, etc. donated to our schools this year. These materials are used by students and teachers in preparing collages, posters, reports, etc. throughout the year. These materials have been sent to schools (check Media Centers); some are also housed at the Resource Center. Check with Margaret for more details.

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission (LVAC) has been very busy with CPIE activities. The productions from the Center of Puppetry Arts, co-sponsored by the Valdosta Junior Service League (another CPIE), has enabled over 4,000 students to view these entertaining and educational programs. The sold-out performances this year (February 16-17) was for *The Wizard of Oz*. All educators are provided with a Study Guide. Next year, Hansel & Gretel will be presented. Special student tickets are provided to the evening Presenter Series. Over 450 students attend these productions. This season the commission has introduced special student matinees for some of the nationally-known performers. LVAC has hosted 23 major art exhibits in the Cultural Arts Center, including international, national, and regional award-winning artists. Many classes, students, and special groups have been included in the 16,000 visitors that have been hosted in the past three years. Also, schools have invited representatives to the classroom to present programs. The Center has also presented an exhibit from the high schools as part of Winnersville Week activities. Many thanks, LVAC!

Georgia Power continues to be involved each six-week grading period in all our schools (K-5). A representative from Georgia Power is assigned one or more schools. That person visits each homeroom in each assigned school every six weeks to present Citizenship Awards to deserving students. This year, an added attraction is "Power Town," a safety presentation on the use of electricity. At the junior high/middle school level, the outstanding math and science students are awarded plaques at the end of the year. At the high school level, the outstanding math and science students are awarded plaques. In addition, the students and chaperones are awarded an overnight trip to Atlanta to visit various sites in which Georgia Power is involved. Thanks so much for your involvement!

Wayne Sapp, Educational Consultant, is working closely with the RVI program at VHS—although he is really a PAL! Wayne is donating 10 percent of all purchases that our system makes with his company; he is returning that 10 percent back to the system for a scholarship for an RVI student to attend Valdosta Technical Institute. Wayne is also available for software demonstrations—just call him! Thanks, Wayne, for your commitment to our students!

Arts

3-14-93

The Valdosta Daily Times

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Performs Tuesday At Mathis

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission will present the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

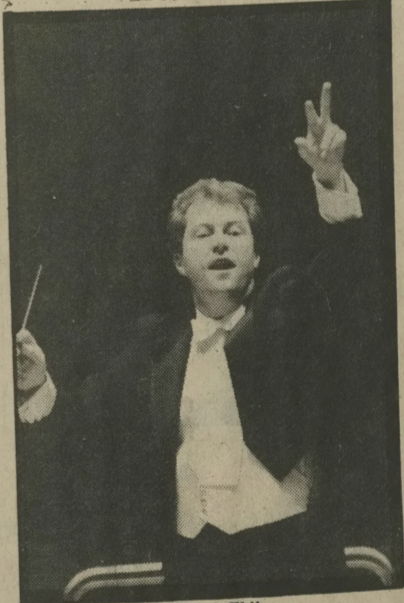
The ASO is conducted by George Hanson. Yoel Levi is the music director.

The program will include Gershwin's "Cuban Overture," "An American in Paris," "Porgy and Bess," "A Symphonic Picture," Rossini's "Overture to 'The Barber of Seville'" and Mendelssohn's "Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Opus 90," with four movements - 1. Allegro vivace, 2. Andante con moto, 3. Con moto moderato and 4. Saltarello: Presto.

According to a press release from Elizabeth Hayes, media director for the ASO, the ASO formed in 1949 and has charted a steady ascent to excellence. In a strong tradition of leadership, the ASO's music directors have included Henry Sopkin (until 1966), Robert Shaw (1967-1988), and Yoel Levi, who became the ASO's third music director in the fall of 1988.

Among the highlights of this decade have been the ASO's European Debut Tour in May 1988, 13 Grammy Awards for recordings and national debuts on both radio and television.

In 1978, Levi was awarded first prize at the Conductors International Competition in Besancon, France. He



YOEL LEVI
Music Director



GEORGE HANSON
ASO Conductor

was resident conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra from 1980-1984.

In recent years, Levi has pursued a distinguished international career guest conducting such leading orchestras as the Berlin Philharmonic, the London Philharmonic, the Orchestre National de France, the Israel Philharmonic and the major orchestras of Chicago, New York, Boston, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, stated the release.

Affiliate Artist Resident Conductor George Hanson joined the ASO in September 1988. He has been active as a guest conductor both in the U.S.

and Europe, including conducting the Hungarian State Symphony, the Zagreb Philharmonic, the Radio Symphony and the Pennsylvania Philharmonic. In January 1989, he won the Stokowski Conducting Competition in New York.

The 95-member ASO is mentioned by the acclaimed *Symphony Orchestra* Chorus voices. The ASO presents 200 concerts each year to an audience estimated at more than a million, stated the release.

LVAC Plans Gallery Expansion

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission wanted to bake a cake to celebrate their third anniversary this past month, but they were too busy.

According to Burton K. Bright, executive director of LVAC, here are some of the latest happenings:

■ **January** — the works of Nancy Kent were displayed. She is a member of the American Portrait Society, the National Watercolor Society and the American Academy of Equine Art.

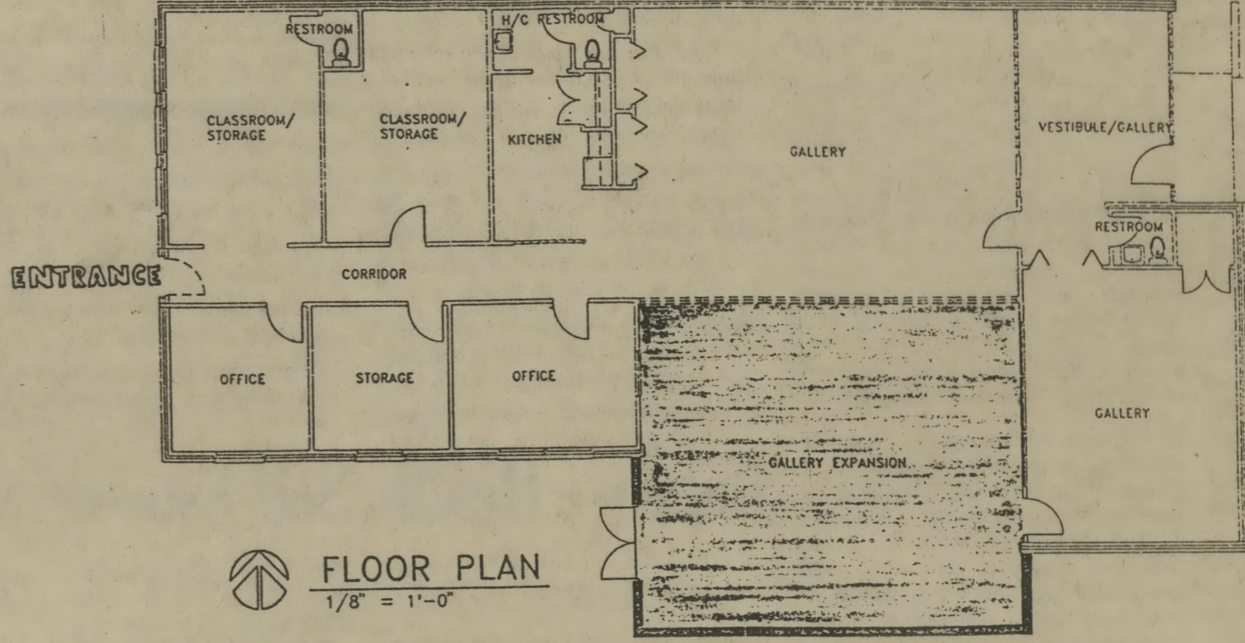
■ **February** — the exhibit "More Than Warmth," featured a comfortable collection of quality quilts by the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild.

■ **February** — also hosted an exhibit of African Art from the collections of Jerry Tillman and Azi Odunze in honor of Black History Month.

■ **February and March** — Children's art classes were being taught, as well as a writing workshop by Roberta George, editor of *Snake Nation Review*.

■ The \$122,000 mortgage has been paid off.

■ An endowment fund is being established to help with future operating and other expenses.



Pictured above is the plan to expand the gallery at Cultural Arts Center. The expansion will provide an additional

2,100 square feet of unobstructed display, workshop or performance area — Photo by Jeff Allen.

■ LVAC is working with the architects and contractors on expanding its gallery and improving its facility. The expansion will provide the Cultural Arts Center with an additional 2,100 square feet of unobstructed display, workshop or performance area.

■ Plans are set for the annual spring art show. The reception is April 13 at

First State Bank downtown. This show is in conjunction with the "Arts Aloft '93" Art Festival, April 15-18.

■ Now on display is an exhibit by the Southeastern Pastel Society titled "Soft On Art." It features award-winning art from eight states.

■ All four performances in the Presenter Series have been presented with tremendous success: pianist Peter Simon, "A Christmas Carol,"

"Peter Pan" and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, as well as four performances of "The Wizard of Oz" by the Center for Puppetry Arts.

■ ARTALK magazine Volume 1 was published to pass out at performances. Plans are now in the works for Volume 2 to be presented at the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra concert on Oct. 12.

■ Since opening in February 1990, there have been more than 16,250 visitors at the Center.

"And that's not all," said Bright. "You can help celebrate by stopping by the Cultural Arts Center to enjoy the art and witness the progress."

The Center is located at 1204 N. Patterson St., and the hours of operation are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Spring INTO ART

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission cordially invites you to the 6th Annual Art Benefit

Tuesday, April 13, 1993
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

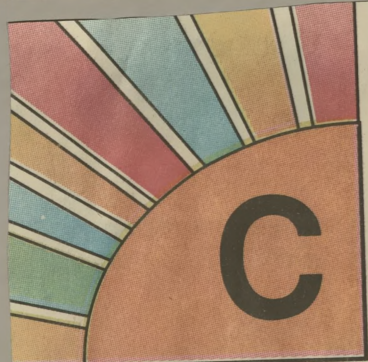
First State Bank & Trust Company
527 N. Patterson Street
Wine and Hors d'oeuvres

\$25 Donation per person
Proceeds to benefit the Cultural Arts Center

2-C Thursday, April 8, 1993

Preview

The Valdosta Daily Times



Inside



■ **Pretty Peppers:** Oida Lampert's silk painting of 'A Peck of Peppers,' above, will be among the artwork on exhibit when the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission sponsors the First State Bank Art Show '93, 'Spring Into Art.' The opening reception is hosted by First State Bank, 527 N. Patterson St., from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday. Page 2-C

Vol. 88 - No. 180

Tuesday
April 13, 1993

■ **Art Show:** The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission unveils its art show, with an opening reception, 7-9 p.m. today at First State Bank, 527 North Patterson St. Admittance: \$25 a person.
— Dean Poling



Ouida D. Lampert's silk painting of 'A Peck Of Peppers,' pictured above, and Earle MacKey's floral painting, below, are

among the art works which will be on exhibit in The First State Bank Art Show '93, 'Spring Into Art' — LVAC Photos.

First State Bank Art Show '93

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission will once again sponsor the artistic event of the year for this community — The First State Bank Art Show '93, "Spring Into Art."

"Since 1988, this premier art show has been held in conjunction with the annual Arts Festival," said Burton K. Bright, executive director of LVAC. "The opening reception is hosted by First State Bank, 527 N. Patterson St., from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday.

"The price of this elegant opening-night reception is \$25 per person, and it is open to the public. Tickets will be available at the door. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Cultural Arts Center."

First State Bank will also be open from 2-5 p.m. April 17 to coincide with the Arts Festival events at Drexel Park.

The show will be on display at the bank during April, after which the juried portion of the exhibit will be on display at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., until May 31.

"The exhibit is now a major regional artistic event featuring 80 artists displaying 160 pieces of art," said Bright. "This year's event will include the sale of the art to the public and the opportunity for purchase awards and prizes for the artists."

For reservations, call the Arts Center at 247-2787.



THEATER AIDS DEVELOPMENT

The Valdosta Playhouse, functioning in downtown for three months now, is a welcome addition. Since locating here, the Theater Guild has had two plays and is gearing up for the Fall Season.

Downtown Idea Exchange (March 15, 1992) reports downtown theaters and other events can "recycle parking" and give "restaurants and service businesses another six to eight hours of revenue-generating activity."

They report that "by keeping downtown alive after 5 p.m. development of restaurants and other related leisure time business is encouraged." And "as Downtown redevelops, buildings are often purchased by law firms, hospitals, telephone companies and similar businesses, which find downtown a more attractive location than malls." Last, "entertainment districts are more conducive to small entrepreneurial businesses (antiques, florist, wine shops), which are less likely candidates for chain-oriented malls."



Lowndes / Valdosta Arts Commission Art Exhibit & Sale



FIRST STATE BANK & TRUST COMPANY

April 13th - 30th, 1993

The Show was Judged by:

Verle L. Mickish,
Professor of Art at Georgia State University.

Catering Services by:

Ahh ... David!

Our Thanks to:

Randy Bozeman,
Georgia Crown Distributing Company

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Cox

Joli Antiques

Valdosta Greenhouses

Plants, Plants, Plants

Juried Pieces will be at the Cultural Arts Center
during May, 1993. Awards will be Announced
at the May 3rd Reception.

Colson Printing Company 5634-1

Name	Title	No.	Sale Price
Florence S. Pysant	Nesting	110	NFS
	Quest for Nature	111	NFS
	To Every Season	112	500.00
Peg Richardson	Cabbages and Kings	113	650.00
Peg Richardson	Loving Touch	114	525.00
Muel N. Rosenbaum	Kitty	115	175.00
Muel N. Rosenbaum	Wisteria in the Window	116	350.00
Lynn Russ	Pais	117	385.00
Bertha L.M. Rozier	A Place to Play	118	NFS
Bertha L.M. Rozier	Whos Entertaining Whom?	119	700.00
Sheila Sabin	Sunlight and Sentiment	120	700.00
Sheila Sabin	Biscuits and Syrup	121	395.00
Lai Sands	On Holiday	122	250.00
Lai Sands	Reminiscing	123	800.00
Dee Dee Scharf	Morning Glory	124	2,000.00
Dee Dee Scharf	Wasted Desire	125	200.00
Mac Sims	Live For Me	126	200.00
Mac Sims	Vessel 1	127	50.00
Martha G. Smart	Vessel 2	128	50.00
Martha G. Smart	Displaying Heron	129	250.00
Betty J. Smith	3-D Azaleas	130	160.00
Betty J. Smith	Lucky Birds, Kyoto	131	300.00
Hazel Smith	And Friends	132	NFS
Robert C. Smith, Jr.	Looking Death In The Eyes	133	180.00
Robert C. Smith, Jr.	The Golden Mean(y)	134	420.00
Wilma R. Sublett	The Ordination	135	NFS
Wilma R. Sublett	Portrait of Debbie Sublett	136	NFS
Sue Van Valkenburg	Tea Time	137	450.00
Sue Van Valkenburg	Country Birdhouse	138	275.00
Jane Vann	Watermelons and Daisies	139	300.00
Jane Vann	Potpouri	140	350.00
Mary E. Vaughan	Untitled	141	
Mary E. Vaughan	Untitled	142	
Sylvia S. Warrick	Floral #15	143	150.00
Sylvia S. Warrick	Floral #16	144	150.00
Lacille White	Nude No. 1	145	NFS
Lacille White	Nude No. 2	146	NFS
Tracy Wilson	Still Life of Vegetables	147	285.00
Tracy Wilson	Still Life of Flowers & Pears	148	335.00
Nancy F. Zeigler	Flower in a Vase	149	950.00
Caroline Swanson	Aunt Mary's Quilt	150	700.00
Stephen Andersen	History of Lowndes	151	300.00
Stephen Andersen	Durand Meet	152	350.00
Don Pettigrew	Untitled	153	
Don Pettigrew	Untitled	154	
Barbara Pennell	Presence of Angels	155	NFS

The Lowndes / Valdosta Arts Commission is proud to present the following artists in the 6th Annual Arts Festival Exhibit and Sale

Name	Title	No.	Sale Price
Walter G. Altman IV	Outside the Stadium #3	1	NFS
Walter G. Altman IV	Outside the Stadium #4	2	NFS
Mary N. Anderson	Sissinghurst Garden - England	3	375.00
Mary N. Anderson	Gathering Wild Flowers	4	350.00
Sibbey Aubrey	Gran mama's Flowers	5	150.00
Sibbey Aubrey	Mountain Waterfall	6	170.00
Katherine J. Aubrey	Serenity	7	NFS
Katherine J. Aubrey	Islandia	8	NFS
Hilts R. Barnett	Existentialist Soldier	9	600.00
Hilts R. Barnett	We Never Should Have Traded Our Arms For Those Shiny Little Hats	10	500.00
Dean Ben	Musical Vet	11	NFS
Thomas K. Becker	Untitled	12	400.00
Lee H. Bennett	October Wild Flowers	13	900.00
Lee H. Bennett	The Red Truck	14	NFS
Deanne F. Bellman	Canadian Barn	15	350.00
Deanne F. Bellman	New England Village	16	350.00
Mary S. Bernhard	Mama's Petunias	17	550.00
Mary S. Bernhard	Nantucket Roses	18	500.00
Lillian H. Brooks	Untitled	19	NFS
J.L. Brundson	Who Cares What Time It Is	20	NFS
Marta G. Cannon	Sun Drenched	21	125.00
Marta G. Cannon	On Spring	22	150.00
Marta G. Cannon	Crescent House	23	550.00
Lacille Carleton	The Power of Gold/Gold	24	600.00
Lacille Carleton	Silk Paper Gold Leaf	25	925.00
Ronald Carter	Quiet Time	26	950.00
Ronald Carter	Lilies in Bloom	27	1,000.00
Lois Chapin	Untitled	28	800.00
Margaret G. Chir	Liquid Sky	29	345.00
Margaret G. Chir	Collaboration	30	575.00
Willy Coleman	Benediction	31	325.00
Willy Coleman	Jesus Look Around	32	NFS
Lois Collins	Sip To Our Ears In Moss	33	NFS
Lois Collins	Star Bear Head Study	34	2,000.00
Mary Ann Cox	Basket of Geraniums	35	1,500.00
Mary Ann Cox	The Competition	36	500.00
		37	550.00

Name	Title	No.	Sale Price
Jonathan Dean	15 Peppers	38	75.00
Jonathan Dean	Free Speech #1	39	NFS
Phil DeLoach	Lightness Of Being	40	275.00
Phil DeLoach	Freddie	41	225.00
Irene Dodd	Ecstasy of Color	42	1,200.00
Irene Dodd	Two Views of St. Thomas	43	1,200.00
John F. Droska	Colorado	44	800.00
John F. Droska	Stormy Night	45	800.00
Blake Ellis	Trillium III	46	500.00
Blake Ellis	Trillium IV	47	800.00
Shirley M. Faircloth	Door to Hospitality	48	300.00
Shirley M. Faircloth	Blue Floral	49	425.00
Marcia Flatau	Rhododendron Canescens	50	400.00
Marcia Flatau	Lake Octahatchee	51	600.00
Luana N. Goodwin	Untitled Reversible Vase	52	200.00
Luana N. Goodwin	Untitled	53	100.00
Joyce Haddock	Georgia Peaches #2	54	145.00
Joyce Haddock	Best Buddies #2	55	35.00
Colleen Harris	On Probation	56	500.00
Colleen Harris	Springtime Tulips	57	125.00
Pat Herrington	Southeasterner	58	1,200.00
Pat Herrington	Second House #2	59	2,200.00
Patsy Hickox	Spring Elegance	60	575.00
Patsy Hickox	Spring in Bloom	61	625.00
Grace B. Hilton	Dillard's Marble Floor	62	200.00
Grace B. Hilton	Christmas Tree	63	200.00
Ginny Hodges	Dramatizing A Still Life	64	275.00
Ginny Hodges	Spring Sunshine	65	400.00
Norma Young Hooks	Paper Whites and China Blues #2	66	600.00
Norma Young Hooks	Paper Whites and China Blues #3	67	375.00
Sheryl R. Huseman	Front Yard Charm	68	175.00
Sheryl R. Huseman	South Georgia Peach Stand	69	125.00
Jacquelyn K.	Gone to the River	70	NFS
Ruth C. Kahler	Is It Spring Yet?	71	500.00
Ruth C. Kahler	Spring Shadows	72	950.00
Ruth C. Kahler	Quiet Harbor	73	450.00
DeDo Maranville	Apples, Anyone?	156	NFS
DeDo Maranville	Who am I?	157	\$450.00

Name	Title	No.	Sale Price
J. Stephen Lahr	Current River Valley	74	1,000.00
J. Stephen Lahr	Patchwork II	75	900.00
Ouida Duke Lampert	A Peck of Peppers	76	320.00
Ouida Duke Lampert	Everything Except The Kitchen Sink	77	200.00
Sondra Littlefield	Blueberries	78	400.00
Sondra Littlefield	Untitled	79	200.00
Bill Malone	Dancer Studies	80	100
Bill Malone	Contemplation	81	250.00
B. J. McAllister	IL Carnevale	82	75.00
B. J. McAllister	IL Carnevale	83	75.00
Gretchen McCoy	"OUR" River Crossing	84	100
Gretchen McCoy	Where Does It Tumble To?	85	100
Earle S. McKey III	"Nippon - A Botanical Portrait	86	1,000.00
Earle S. McKey III	Medieval garden	87	100
Lisa L. McMillan	Dreams	88	250.00
Melody Milbrandt	Torn; but not broken	89	200.00
Melody Milbrandt	Til Only Strands Remain	90	200.00
Virginia Roach	Tropical Fruit	91	700.00
Virginia Roach	African Ladies	92	150.00
J. E. Norris, Jr.	Centre Street - Fernandina	93	450.00
J. E. Norris, Jr.	Old Town Shipyard	94	400.00
Ellen M. Oliver	Untitled	95	
Ellen M. Oliver	Untitled	96	
Al Park	Birth Of A Politician	97	400.00
Al Park	Untitled	98	200.00
Cuba Parrish	Silk Flowers	99	250.00
Cuba Parrish	Ducks in Flight	100	250.00
Barbara J. Paulk	A Vase of Flowers, From a Study of Paul Theodor Van Brussel 1783	101	100
Carla M. Penny	Bad Pictures	102	100
Carla M. Penny	Untitled	103	100
Donald C. Penny	Reliquary I	104	250.00
Donald C. Penny	Untitled	105	100
Cleon Phillips, Jr.	Oyster Boat Carabelle	106	100
Cleon Phillips, Jr.	T. F.'s Oyster Fleet	107	100
Earl J. Powell	Blackgum Knot	108	100
Earl J. Powell	Maple Burl	109	100

The Great 14TH ANNUAL HAHIRA Pick-in

April 30th & May 1st, 1993
Performers.....

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Cross Creek Cloggers
1st Coast Bluegrass
Thin Ice
Smokin' Grass
Brush Fire
Back Waters
The Craftsmen
Hahira Bluegrass Inc.

SATURDAY

Larry Rice
Front Porch String Band

Sponsored by Major Grants from



Chevron
USA



Grass & Weed Killer



GEORGIA COUNCIL FOR THE
Arts
This program is funded in part by the
agency through appropriations of the
Georgia General Assembly.



TICKET PRICES

At Gate: Friday \$7⁰⁰ Saturday \$10⁰⁰

Advance Weekend Special-Only \$15.00 for both days at Sandy
Campbell Music, Northside Drive, Valdosta, GA and 1st
American Drugs, Main Street, Hahira, GA and the Cultural
Arts Center, Patterson Street, Valdosta, GA

Performance Starting Times . . .

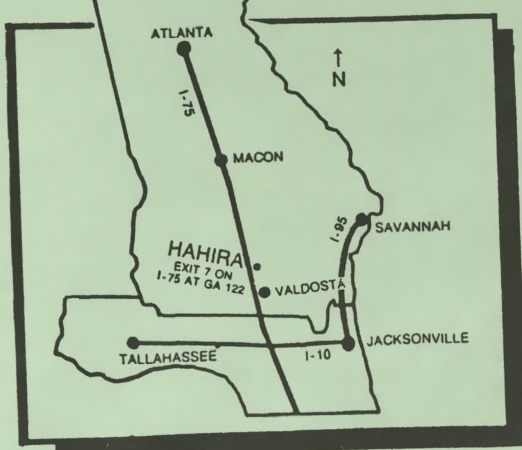
Friday - 7:00 PM

Saturday - 12:45 PM



- ☆ For your comfort, bring lawn chairs.
- ☆ Pets allowed on leash only.
- ☆ Food will be available at the Park.
- ☆ FREE camping with Weekend tickets. (No hookups, but water and toilets are available).
- ☆ No alcohol or coolers allowed in stage area.
- ☆ FREE Guitar giveaway — courtesy of Sandy Campbell Music.
- ☆ 24-hour security on premises.
- ☆ Children 12 or under FREE with paid adult.
- ☆ Any individual appearing to be intoxicated, acting abusive or causing trouble will be removed from premises with no refund.

For Information Contact:
Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission
P.O. Box 1966
Valdosta, Georgia 31601
912-247-2787



And under sponsorship of Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission



Romancing the stage with memorable songs from Broadway will be Choral Guild members, from left, Jim and Marlyn Freed, Mark and Kathy Young, Webster and Beverly Teague, John and Kathleen Patterson, Bob and Susan Everett — Guild Photo.

Valdosta Choral Guild's 'Curtain Call' On April 20

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Love is in the air and on the minds of the 60 members of the Valdosta Choral Guild as they prepare for their spring concert "Curtain Call" at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

Love and its many manifestations are the subject of the program, with songs ranging from Bizet's "Toreador Song" to Rogers and Hammerstein's "Younger Than Springtime." A special feature of the evening is a long

medley of Sigmund Romberg's intensely romantic operetta songs, including "Desert Song," "Sweetheart," "Lover, Come Back To Me" and "Wanting You."

Other highlights are Marti Brazziel's solo on "Summertime" and Electa Rickett and Larry Adams in the "Phantom of the Opera" love duet "All I Ask of You."

Directed by Dr. Webster Teague and accompanied by Andy Daughtry, the Valdosta Choral Guild is in its 15th year as a community chorus, with membership open to any interested singer, and bringing semi-an-

nual concerts to the area at Christmas and in the spring.

"We feel we have chosen music loved by everyone as well as a few selections, less well known, you will equally enjoy," said Teague.

Single tickets are \$5, for a group of 10 or more, \$4; and for students, \$3. They are available from any member of the Guild, Harriet Crum at 794-2155, and Kathy Young at 249-8816. They may also be purchased at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., at Ivey's The Man's Shop in the Valdosta Mall or at the door.

SPE SOUTHEASTERN PASTEL SOCIETY

1 9 9 3 MEMBERS EXHIBITION

LOWNDES / VALDOSTA
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

March 1-March 31, 1993

THE SOUTHEASTERN PASTEL SOCIETY
2906 TEMPLAR KNIGHT DRIVE
TUCKER, GEORGIA 30084 (404)493-8749

JUROR

J. Stephen Lahr, ED.D., Professor of Art at Valdosta State College School of the Arts, has been associated with art education and administration since 1968. He has held positions of Instructor, Gallery Director and Department Head at the College and exhibits his work throughout Georgia, Florida and Missouri. Some of the recent exhibitions are: "One man Retrospective", Iekyll Island Art Association; "Georgia Arts Project", Senator Wyche Fowler's office, Washington, D.C.; "Georgia Watercolor Society National Exhibition", Macon, Georgia; "Southern Works on Paper I", Quinlan Arts Center, Gainesville, Georgia. Jurying experience spans eight years and includes the Thomasville Annual 1992, Thomasville Watercolor Society Members Exhibition 1991, Middle Georgia Art Association Winter Arts Festival, Macon, GA., 1988, and Festival on the Square, 1987, Colquitt Cultural Arts Council, Moultrie, GA. His publications for the Georgia Art Education Association are: "Health and Safety Hazards in the Classroom" and "The State of Visual Arts in Education" in *Directions in Art*.

JUROR'S STATEMENT

Let me preface this statement with a disclaimer. It is very difficult to pick the best work for an exhibition from slides, therefore it is highly possible that some good pieces were not selected for exhibition due to the initial jurying process. **It is important for all of you to note that good slides are almost as important as good work.**

Overall, I found the works to be interesting and some pieces were very exciting visually. It seems to me that the nature of the medium is such that I expected to see vibrant color and well-composed works. I was not disappointed. Works that were unusual in their point of view and that exhibited a unique nature attracted me. I also enjoyed seeing **traditional subject-matter treated in non-traditional ways. Unity with variety, texture, light and dark, and color patterns plays a distinctive role in pastel works.** Pieces that caught my eye and fired my imagination possessed those elements. Bold works with contrast always stand out, they invite attention. These were the things that initially crossed my mind as I began the selection process.

A number of things stood out as I looked at the slides. First, there was a diversity of techniques, methods and processes used and this impressed me. Second, the technical merit of many pieces seemed to be excellent. And third, the intense color and bold use of high contrast were visually stimulating.

Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to critically appraise these works for the 1993 Southeastern Pastel Society Members Exhibition. I believe that it is a visually exciting, highly interesting and beautiful show; I look forward to selecting the award winners.

THE SHOW

Katie Lee Ashmore	"Sunflowers"	\$900
Martha Bator	"Gatsby Auction Hall"	\$1200
Martha Betts	"In Full Bloom"	NFS
Martha Betts	"Sky Lights"	NFS
Ken Landon Buck	"Siciliano in Chair"	\$2000
Ken Landon Buck	"Three Chairs #2"	\$2000
Ken Landon Buck	"Feet Towards The Window"	\$1200
Peggy Duncan Burnett	"Hayfield, Evening"	\$600
Peggy Duncan Burnett	"The Homestead"	\$500
Margaret Cline	"Trail To Within"	\$375
Margaret Cline	"Corner Memories"	\$400
Margaret Cline	"Yesterdays Child"	\$625
Mikki Dillon	"Cedric"	\$500
Mikki Dillon	"Cat-Matisse"	\$750
Mikki Dillon	"Lady In Red"	\$750
Peggy Dressel	"Kristy With Her Granddad"	\$750
Peggy Dressel	"Keith With Willie"	\$750
Peggy Dressel	"Tea For two"	\$750
Jane Gibout	"Alpharetta Street"	\$575
Jane Gibout	"Peel's Farm"	\$500
Jane Gibout	"Alone"	\$550
Bill Greenwood	"Marsh Eve"	\$400
Lorraine King	"Over The Dunes"	\$500
Helen Kotscher	"Lands End"	\$800
Helen Kotscher	"The Retreat"	\$800
Stephen Krach	"Zucchini Blossom"	\$1150
Frances Landel	"Male Torso"	\$500
Lorraine Martinie	"Greek Abstraction"	\$500
Naomi McCracken	"Spring Marsh"	\$550
Naomi McCracken	"Fall Cottonwoods"	\$550
Virginia Roach Munroe	"It's Your Turn"	\$600
Joyce Nagel	"Pritchardville May"	\$1,100
Joyce Nagel	"Bottom's Up"	\$1,200
Joyce Nagel	"Island Industry"	\$1,200
Gail Novak	"Heleconia"	\$595
Gail Novak	"Swamp Things III"	\$595
Gail Novak	"Folly Beach Road"	\$595
Ann Parsons Odum	"South Georgia Swamp"	\$200
Ronnie Offen	"Down The Lane"	\$600
Ronnie Offen	"Brussel's Lilies"	\$550
Florence S. Prisant	"Zinnias and Fruit"	\$900
Kay Y. Robb	"Katy I"	NFS
Junko Ono Rothwell	"Reclining Nude"	\$600
Junko Ono Rothwell	"Donald"	\$600
Junko Ono Rothwell	"First Snow"	\$600
Renee Ruffin	"Bad News Blues"	\$650
Susan H. Smith	"Keisha"	\$750
Susan H. Smith	"The Opening"	\$450
Susan H. Smith	"View Of The Green"	\$500
Camilla Stoltz	"Pigeon River"	\$500
Camilla Stoltz	"Colorado Meadow"	\$500
Diane Tigue	"Night"	\$600
Diane Tigue	"Sauna"	\$600
Diane Tigue	"Lake Superior"	\$350
George H. Williams	"Ohio Farm"	\$350
George H. Williams	"Red Haired Girl"	\$150



Locally

■ **Brown Bag:** Thin Ice performs, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. today. Lowndes County Courthouse square. Thin Ice, a bluegrass band, has a repertoire which includes traditional bluegrass and contemporary songs.
— Dean Poling



Brown Bag Concert

4-12-93

The J. J. Jennings Band plays to the crowd attending the brown bag concert Monday at the Lowndes County Courthouse square. The concert series will continue throughout the week, starting at 11:30 a.m. and going until 1:30 p.m. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy.

It's Time For Arts Aloft

■ This year's local arts festival promises to be a good one. Don't miss it.

If it is spring in Valdosta, then it's time for the city's annual arts festival.

Yes, it's Arts Aloft week, and although the festival doesn't begin in earnest until Thursday, there already are preview activities under way.

Between now and Friday, the NationsBank's "Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series" is going on outside the Lowndes County Courthouse. This popular, annual event gives Valdostans a reason to spend their lunchtimes outdoors in a relaxed atmosphere.

Once again, in conjunction with this year's festival, there will be art exhibits, the ever-popular hot-air balloon rally, a fun-filled day of music, food and other events planned Saturday at Drexel park — and more. See the special section in Wednesday's newspaper to get the complete rundown.

Local officials and volunteers have been working hard planning this year's festival menu in order to make it the best ever. The last ingredient needed is you.

We hope to see you at the festivities.

LVAC Honoring Local Volunteer

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer 6-4-93

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission is honoring Frances Allen for her outstanding volunteer work at a reception from 5-7 p.m. Monday at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.

"She has been a loyal volunteer since the Arts Center opened in 1990, donating her time, energy and resources to ensure the success of Art Center programs," said Burt Bright, executive director of LVAC.

A graduate of The University of South Carolina, Mrs. Allen has lived

in Valdosta since 1945. She is a self-taught watercolorist and also does a number of other crafts, such as basket weaving and cross-stitch. She worked at the Valdosta State College Fine Arts Gallery before volunteering at the Cultural Arts Center when it first opened.

She is the mother of two sons and will be moving soon to live with one of her sons and his wife in Jacksonville, Fla.

"The Arts Center is grateful to Frances Allen for her contribution to the success of artistic activities in our community," said Bright. "She will be sorely missed."

PLAYING SUCCESSFULLY

The Valdosta Theatre Guild's production of "The Curious Savage" ran for two weekends May 13-16 and 20-21. The show was well received by all who attended and the Guild felt like it was a real success.



Cultural Corner

CENTER EXPANSION

The Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA, is starting its gallery expansion. The Center has been open since February 1990. Since opening, the Center has hosted 24 major exhibits, had 16,000 visits, and paid off the \$122,000 mortgage.

The expansion, which should be completed by September, will not interfere with the summer workshop activity. The expansion will double the main gallery to 2000 square feet clear span with a 16 foot ceiling which will enable the gallery to host larger shows and more 3 dimensional art displays.

The expansion has been made possible in part by a \$30,000 grant and community support. "With the expansion, the Commission can accommodate additional literary activity, chamber music, readings, educational lectures and workshops" stated Wilby Coleman, Chairman of the Arts Commission.

SEASON TICKETS

Season Tickets for the 1993-94 Presenter Series will be on sale soon at the Cultural Arts Center. The theme of this year's Presenter Series is "A Noteworthy Season." Performances will feature The Jacksonville Symphony, The Daniel Heifetz String Septet and Ballet South. The Jacksonville Symphony will be performing a Pops concert. The Daniel Heifetz Septet will give a performance of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons." Ballet South will be doing their version of "Snow White" and others. Also, there will be a Broadway musical, "Gentleman Prefer Blondes" by a national touring company. Season Tickets are still only \$60 for adults, \$45 for children 12 and under. Call 247-2787 to reserve your seat, or visit the Center at 1204 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, Ga.

WRITE FOR SUMMER

The Cultural Arts Center will be hosting a writing workshop in June. The workshop will be held on four successive Saturdays in June. The beginners class will be from 1 - 3 p.m.; Intermediate students will be taught from 3 - 5 p.m. The price of this class is \$30. The class will be taught by Mrs. Roberta George, creative writing teacher and Editor of Snake Nation Review. The class will feature 4 guest speakers, and will focus on the use of personal experience and journals in creative memorable fiction. For more information call the Center at 247-2787, or Roberta George at 249-8334.

CHAMBER PROPOSAL

The Chamber of Commerce and the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission are sponsoring an art contest. The Chamber wants any interested artist to submit a proposal to design the cover for the 1994 Chamber of Commerce Membership Directory. The cover should reflect the Lowndes County community. The artist's proposal will be judged by a committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission. The proposal and applicable information should be submitted to the Chamber of Commerce by July 15, 1993. The artist making the proposal should define the following:

1. Media - may be multi-colored.
 2. Artist's concept for the design
 3. A sketch with an artist's statement
 4. Once the sketch/proposal is accepted, the final camera ready should be delivered to the Chamber within 10 working days.
- The size of the cover will be 8 1/2" by 11". A cash award of \$500 will be presented to the artist selected. 50% of the award will be presented upon the acceptance of the proposal, the remainder when the finished work is received by the Chamber. The Chamber of Commerce and the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission reserve the right to use the finished product for publicity.

Kids' Art Classes Begin July 12 At Arts Center

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Now is the time to sign your child up for the Children's Art Classes, which will begin July 12 at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.

Taught by Melody Milbrandt, the classes will run for four weeks, each being a week long (July 12, 19, 26 and Aug. 2). They will be from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday and are open to children ages 8-12. The cost is \$30 per week, with all supplies furnished.

These classes are an introduction to the fun of creating works, both individually and with a group. Projects will exercise young imaginations and involve the basic concepts of shape, color, form and texture. Children will be exposed to a variety of visual art materials, such as chalk, paint, scissors, clay and more.

A resident of the community since 1991, Mrs. Milbrandt is teaching these classes for the third consecutive summer. Originally from Kansas, she received a bachelor of arts degree from Southwestern College, a master of arts in art education and a specialist degree in educational administration from Wichita State University.

She has been accepted in the doctoral program at Florida State University and hopes to begin pursuing her doctorate this fall.

She taught in the Wichita school system for several years and was voted Art Instructor of the Year in Kansas in 1991. She also served as

an adjunct lecturer in "Stimulating Creative Behavior" at Wichita State University.

Currently, she teaches fifth through eighth-grade art at an area school and is an adjunct instructor of art methods for elementary education majors at Valdosta State College.

"I prefer to teach more to students than just technique," she said. "I like for students to look at and think about their environment. I like for them to use the environment and see art in nature and how it is made. I also believe it is important for the artist to give some sort of self-expression in his work."

"The Japanese education system is strong in art, and they admire our self-expression. Besides being a form of self-expression, art is a problem-solving activity and helps teach students what is important. For a long time, schools were not teaching art, but rather just giving the students tools to create without giving much instruction in technique."

"This has changed, with more technique being taught at an early age. Children are taught to read and write as a way to express themselves, and they can be taught certain techniques of art for the same purposes."

Mrs. Milbrandt is married to Dr. Lanny Milbrandt, professor of art and head of the Art Department at Valdosta State College.

For more information about the Children's Art Classes and how to register your child, contact Burt Bright at 247-ARTS or visit the Cultural Arts Center.



Melody Milbrandt teaches art to children at the Cultural Arts Center a previous summer. This year's session will begin July 12 — Photo from Burt Bright.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

The Cultural Arts Center will be hosting children's art classes beginning on July 12th, 19th, 26th and August 2nd. Each class will run from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for children ages 8 - 12. The price for each class will be \$30. Instruction will be

provided by professional art educator Mrs. Melody Milbrandt. Mrs. Milbrandt has a BA from Southwestern, an MA and specialist degrees from Wichita State, and was Elementary Art Educator of the year in Kansas in 1991. These classes are an introduction to the fun of creating works, both individually and with a group.

Projects will exercise young imaginations and involve the basic concepts of shape, color, form and texture. Children will be exposed to a variety of visual art materials such as chalk, paint, scissors, clay, etc. Now is the time to sign up your child for professional art instruction. Visit the center, or call 247-2787.



TUSK

Artistic asuæo!q

Works by Ouida Duke Lampert, R.K. Young and R.A. Young.

Artist Ouida Duke Lampert, R.K. Young and R.A. Young have provided an exhibition of diverse works and styles. Represented will be paintings on silk, paper and canvas, and mixed media works. Where possible, the artists have arranged to show you their original working drawings with a brief explanation of the inspiration for the pieces in the show.

An opening reception, where you may meet the artist, will be held June 7, 5-7 pm. The exhibit will remain open throughout June. Center hours are 10 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday. For more information, please visit the center or call 247-ARTS.



LVAC 'Heart Of Artistic Community'

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

In the 15 years it has been formed, the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission has entertained, enriched and educated the people of Lowndes County with the sights and sounds of music, dance, drama, comedy and the visual arts.

Formed in 1978 to promote cultural experiences in the area in the visual, performing, literacy, music and theater arts, LVAC has been committed to the realization that art in any form is one of man's most challenging and satisfying opportunities, says Burton K. Bright, LVAC executive director.

On Feb. 2, 1990, LVAC opened the first Cultural Arts Center in Valdosta and Lowndes County at 1204 N. Patterson St., inviting other related groups under its umbrella, becoming even more a viable arts organization.

Those organizations that were formed under LVAC or now sponsored by it include the South Georgia Writers Guild, The Valdosta Arts Festival, The Great Hahira Pick-In, the Cultural Arts Guild, the Theatre Guild, the Southern Artists League, Snake Nation Press Inc.,

the Valdosta Choral Guild and the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild.

The South Georgia Writers Guild was founded in 1986 as a support group for writers. The Valdosta Arts Festival began in 1988 as a means of bringing art to the community, including an arts and crafts show, a quilting seminar, a writers workshop, an art exhibit and musical performances. Eventually, Arts Aloft was born and now includes, for the past three years, a balloon rally.

The Great Hahira Pick-In began in 1978 as a string music contest with a few good bluegrass bands thrown in for the balance, but now the bands are hired and it is a three-day festival. The Cultural Arts Guild's purpose is to promote the Cultural Arts Center, and its activities and to support LVAC and its endeavors. It was formed in 1989.

Also formed in 1989 were The Theatre Guild, which produces four or five shows a year, and The Southern Artists League, Inc., a non-profit organization of local artist, both professional and amateur. Snake Nation Press, Inc. has published six issues of Snake Nation Review in the past three years and one anthology, *Inside, Outside '93*. It also sponsors a poetry contest.

The Valdosta Choral Guild has been around for more than 20

years, has 60 members and presents two concerts a year, in addition to performing at other functions. And, the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild was organized in 1986 to allow members to share quilting projects and ideas.

LVAC also presents The Presenters Series at Mathis Municipal Auditorium each year, a collection of artistic activities for the community. The 1993-94 Series will include the Jacksonville Symphony "Pops Concert" — Oct. 12; Heifetz String Septet "The Four Seasons" — Nov. 9; "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" — Jan. 25; and Ballet South "Snow White and Others" — March 24; plus four performances of "Hansel and Gretel" by The Center of Puppetry Arts of Atlanta — March 16 and 17.

"We like to think of ourselves as the heart of the artistic community," said Bright. "The things we are not directly involved in, where art is concerned, we try to help with in any way we can."

"1992 was a year that we felt we established ourselves with credibility. It was a time we said, 'Hey! We're for real!' It was a great year, and I feel 1993 will be even better. Personally, I feel I'm just the guy answering the phone to facilitate all this."

Valdosta Theatre Guild Seeks Strong Identity

By TABITHA MEIER
Times Copy Editor

The local theatre guild's new name and home should give it some distinction, its public relations director said.

The Valdosta Theatre Guild, formerly The Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Council Theatre Guild, changed its name April 13, Joanne Griner said.

The change will separate the guild from LVAC in the community's eye, Ms. Griner said. LVAC and the guild still work closely together, but the new name will clearly identify the guild in the community, she said.

Along with the name change, the guild found a permanent home, Ms. Griner said. The guild bought the old Dosta Theatre in July 1992. The theater, first opened in 1941 as a movie house, seats about 230 people, or about 110 in a dinner theater setting.

"Vagabonds and gypsies" since the guild started four years ago, the members moved from venue to venue, whatever was available to put on shows, Ms. Griner said. "People don't have to follow our little trail of crumbs around the county anymore. Now we have a home," she said.

Ms. Griner said the most important goal for the next season is making the guild known to the public. The name and a permanent residence will give the guild a higher public profile, she said. That could mean increased membership, increased participation and more people coming to the shows.

The guild set a goal to raise \$80,000 for the theater's renovation and complete it in three years. About \$62,000 has been raised and a \$40,000 loan has been secured so far. When the guild bought the theater, an open house was held. People were allowed to tour the facility and peruse blueprints for the renovation.

Ms. Griner estimates the renovations will be complete in September 1995. To celebrate, the guild will hold a Champagne and Caviar Gala Grand Opening, she said.

So far, structural repairs are completed. A new lobby floor was built. Handicapped restrooms and new res-

troom plumbing fixtures were installed. A 1,000-foot thrust stage has been built and new seating is installed, Ms. Griner said. Terrace floors, dressing rooms, wall and ceiling repairs will eventually be completed. A heating and cooling system will also be installed, she said.

The guild will close its 1992-93 season with "The Curious Savage," May 13-16 and May 20-22.

The 1993-94 season will be all comedy and includes two musicals. The season opens with "The Sound of Music" on Sept. 18 for a two-weekend run. "Harvey" will run in November. "The Foreigner," a comedy about what happens when an Englishman visits North Georgia, will run in January. "Arsenic and Old Lace" will play in March. The season will close in June with another musical, "Nunsense," Ms. Griner said.

Season tickets will be available to the public for the first time in the 1993-94 season.

"Not having a home of our own, we didn't know where we'd be," said Ms. Griner, explaining why season tickets weren't available before.

Part of the price of the season-ticket packages, which are named after plays, are tax deductible, Ms. Griner said.

The Suite season ticket package costs \$50. The package includes one season ticket or five admissions to any of the 1993-94 season plays. Thirty dollars of the donation is tax deductible.

The Auntie Mame costs \$100 and includes two season tickets or 10 admissions to any play.

The Golden Boy costs \$250. It offers four season tickets.

The Sugar Babies is \$500 for eight season tickets. You Can't Take It With You costs \$1,000 for 12 season tickets.

Before the guild offered season tickets, memberships for \$10 were available. Members would get voting rights for productions and officers, as well as discounts on plays, and memberships still are available, Ms. Griner said.

VSC Teacher Inspires Summer Job

KRISTINE HARNAGE
Writer

a class at Valdosta State I said the teacher was so and that she thought she'd from him, that she de- end the summer with him

Holt, originally from At- resident of Valdosta since e new summer intern at es/Valdosta Arts Commis- sional Arts Center, 1204 N. St.

ate student at VSC working ster's degree in public ad- n, she took a couple of ight by Burton Bright, ex- ector of LVAC, and her in- the arts was once again

ways been interested in the said. "Mr. Bright always examples of different ways ings here (like marketing) told us about in class, and like a great place to learn

ed Monday and have al- at half of the 'movers and n Valdosta. He's taken me City Hall, the radio station newspaper and introduced lot of people. He's also ex- ne way things work along

Holt's duties this summer will putting out the summer r for the patrons and mem- LVAC, updating them on pro- wns and the Fall Presenter updating the LVAC scrap



Heather Holt, intern at the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Cultural Arts Center this summer, works on a typewriter — Times Photo by Jeff Allen.

book; and setting up program bud- gets for each of the programs in the presenter series.

She said she would like to work in the arts, in perhaps Atlanta or Chi- cago, after she graduates next

spring. She said she'd like to ba- sically have the same type of job Bright has at LVAC.

"Coming to Valdosta from a city the size of Atlanta, with its many mu- seums and offerings in the arts, I was extremely surprised at how much LVAC and the Cultural Arts Center does and offers," she said. "It was a nice surprise in a small com- munity — that it's accessible and has interests for all in the community.

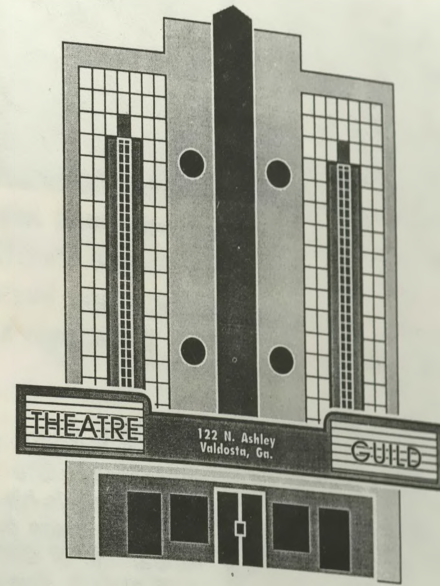
"Mr. Bright wants to have some- thing for everyone, from the very young to the elderly, which I think is good. I've learned already, in the short time I've been here, that there's a lot of 'behind-the-scenes' work to do to bring performances here, which I didn't know."

When not working or going to school, Miss Holt, 23, enjoys painting, reading, bike riding and going out with friends. She's also a graduate assistant with the Alumni Relations Office at VSC. Her parents live in Atlanta, where her mother is a library technician and her father is an accountant. She has one sister, Shan- non, 18, who attends VSC, and one brother, Michael, 14.

She said she decided to go to VSC, rather than one of the schools in North Georgia, because she has friends here, the school has the de- grees she's interested in, and she didn't want to get lost in the shuffle of a big school

"I really like Valdosta," she said. "It's grown a lot just in the five years I've been here, and the college is growing and attracting a lot more students from Atlanta, too. I think this is a nice place to live."

Beginning a New Future



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Valdosta, Georgia 31604

Lively Arts

LVAC Presents 'A Noteworthy Season'

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission is once again bringing nationally and internationally known performers to Valdosta for its 1993-94 Presenter Series.

"This year's will once again be an exciting series of evening entertain- ment," said Burton K. Bright, execu- tive director of LVAC. "The theme of this year's Presenter Series is 'A Noteworthy Season.'"

On Oct. 12, the Jacksonville Sym- phony Orchestra will be presenting a Pops concert. Performing more than 200 concerts from September through May, the JSO brings music to more than 170,000 people annually. In recent seasons, the JSO has per- formed with such world-class per- formers as Itzhak Perlman, Luciano Pavarotti, Jessye Norman, Henry Mancini and Dionne Warwick.

Through its educational program, the JSO reaches more than 75,000 children and young people each year. Artistic excellence and community support have brought new levels of achievement to the JSO.

On Nov. 9, the Heifetz String Sep- tet will be performing Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons." One of the most exciting violinists now before the public, Daniel Heifetz is acclaimed on four continents for his extraordi- nary virtuosity, profound artistry and distinctive char- isma.

Prize winner in the Sixth Interna- tional Tchaikovsky Competition in Washington, D.C., Heifetz regularly performs in Europe, the Far East and Central and South America. An innovative interpretation of one of the world's most often performed pieces brings new life to Vivaldi's timeless masterpiece. The Heifetz String Septet will also be performing an afternoon student matinee.



HEIFETZ

On Jan. 25, National Touring Musi- cal will perform the Broadway hit "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes." One of America's favorite Broadway movie musicals sparkles in a new setting of tap shoes, colorful cos- tumes and glittering production num- bers.

Set in the "Roaring '20s," this clas- sic story of Lorelei Lee — played on the silver screen by Marilyn Monroe — is filled with wonderful Jule Styne songs like "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend," "Bye Bye Baby," "I'm just a little girl from Little Rock" and fast-moving jazz and tap-dance num- bers.

Stella Parton, sister of country singer and actress Dolly Parton, will be starring in this production.

"This perfor- mance will be a fun-filled evening the whole family will enjoy," said Bright.

On March 24, Ballet South will perform "Snow White." Under the artistic direction of the internation- ally acclaimed teacher and dancer Dame Sonia Arova, Ballet South tours extensively in the Southeast with major works including "Swan Lake," "Giselle," "Cinderella" and "The Nutcracker."

"Snow White" is now in its world- premiere season. Created by resident choreographer Thor Sutowski to Erich Korngold's music, "Snow White" combines ballet with fairy tale to produce a moving depiction of good versus evil, tender romance and lighthearted humor. Ballet South will also be teaching a Master Class for interested students.

Season tickets are now on sale for this year's Presenter Series. They are \$60, with a special children's (un- der 12) season ticket for \$45. Tickets to individual performances will be on sale after Oct. 1. To get your tickets, visit the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., or call 247-ARTS.



PARTON



Ballet South will perform 'Snow White' Arts Commission — Photo by Billy Brown March 24, presented by Lowndes/Valdosta Photography.

Expansion Begins On Arts Center

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission has begun the expansion of the Cultural Arts Center at 1204 N. Patterson St.

Plans for the expansion include increasing the gallery to twice its present size, as well as remodeling the interior to enhance the presentation of visual art, said Burton K. Bright, executive director of LVAC.

"The expanding gallery will also be able to host other events impossible at present, such as chamber music concerts, poetry and fiction readings, lectures, art classes and other activities as well," he said. "Expansion began as soon as the building permit was granted following approval of the plans by the City Planning Commission."

"Things should move along quite rapidly now that we've broken ground, and we hope to be back in full operation by October. The Center expansion will include a new lighting system, air-conditioning and many other improvements."

Other plans for the Center include increasing the classroom space so

that adult and children's classes can be ongoing without interfering with other Center activities; dedicating one of the offices to the associate guilds for a resource room to house reference works and other guild materials; a small gallery of 550 square feet that will house the Center's permanent collection or small rotating exhibits of regional or other art; and increasing the wall space in the board room to have additional space for exhibits.

"We are looking forward to hosting or making the Center available to local community groups or organizations for their meetings," said Bright. "We want this to be a true Cultural Arts Center for our community."

The Grand Re-opening of the Center is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 4, in conjunction with the third annual Artoberfest. This year's theme will be an "Old-Fashioned Swamp-fest." The event will be sponsored in part by Publix and Warehouse Liquors.

"We are looking forward to being part of the re-opening on October 4, and intend to do our swamp-stompin' best for the Swamp-fest," said Paul Houck, manager of Publix.



Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Wade Coleman, 3330 Bellemeade Drive



Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Phillip A. Mittiga, 3319 Bellemeade Drive



Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Tildon W. Smith, 3219 Country Club Drive



Home Of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Hinton Jr., 812 Smithbriar Drive

The Valdosta Daily Times

Sunday, September 12, 1993

Cultural Arts Guild Tour Of Homes, Art 2-6 P.M. Sept. 26

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Cultural Arts Guild of Valdosta is sponsoring a Tour of Homes and Art from 2-6 p.m. Sept. 26.

Seven homes and numerous works of art within the homes will be viewed by those attending the tour. The money raised will go to the Cultural Arts Center, of which the guild is an auxiliary. The owners, addresses and descriptions of the homes follow.

The first home is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wade Coleman, 3330 Bellemeade Drive. The Colemans drew inspiration for the facade of their stucco house from the French cottage look. Monet's house in Giverny, France, provided the basis for the striking, yet peaceful, pink exterior.

Numerous windows were used to create a feeling of openness and light, accentuating the attractive setting and drawing the outside in. Interior design is by Pam Scruggs, ASID. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have several paintings by local artists and family portraits by Robert Toombs of Sarasota, Fla.

The second home on the tour is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Phillip A. Mittiga, at 3319 Bellemeade Drive. The Mittiga residence, first featured on Atlanta's "Street of Dreams," was designed by Bill Grant of Blairsville. Its "Old World" stacked stone exterior and stacked stone fireplace, wide front porch and large pane windows with shutters calls to mind a mixture of English manor, New England traditional and Southern country.

This unique combination of styles belies a "New World" interior of the latest in contemporary styling — vaulted ceilings, an open floor plan and a sweeping wall of windows overlooking the golf course. Fine furnishings and elegant accessories are complemented by traditional art.

Dr. and Mrs. Jonathon Parrott own the third home on the tour, at 3442 Country Club Road. The couple has recently acquired Parrott's family home and are in the process of refurbishing and decorating. The structure originated as a small tenant house, which was moved from the front of the property to its present location by Parrott's grandparents in 1936.

It was renovated at that time under the direction of architect Felton Davis and has since been enlarged twice. The Parrotts, who own a number of traditional works of art, many from regional artists, also collect the works of Moses Tolliver. "Mose" is a self-taught "outside artist" (outside the mainstream), who produces works of a primitive, child-like nature.

The fourth home on the tour is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Tildon W. Smith and is located at 3219 Country Club Drive. This home was built in 1935 by Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Ferguson and was subsequently owned for many years by Dr. and Mrs. A.G. Little. Situated in a park-

like setting with many large trees, the house has recently been completely renovated, including a comprehensive kitchen update and the creation of a master bedroom suite on the main floor.

While the facade remains essentially unchanged, extensive use of windows accentuates the lovely surroundings. Interior design is by Sherry Cloud, IFDA. An eclectic collection of art is comprised of works in oil, bronze and glass, primarily from Italy, England and the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. James T. Hinton Jr. own the fifth home on the tour, at 812 Smithbriar Drive. The home was built in the 1970s by Hinton's parents. It has a traditional facade, opening to an interior featuring a two-story den with double galleries and two double French doors leading to a brick patio.

Warm colors combine with the openness to give the house a feel of quiet intimacy while at the same time being open and spacious. Their art is a collection of area artists, including Gretchen McCoy, Earle McKey and John Bunker, with several special pieces by Hinton's brother, Steve. A mural on the back wall of the bar by Steve Hinton depicts James and Steve's father's interest in golf.

The sixth home on the tour is owned by Mr. and Mrs. William G. Eager Jr., at 502 Eager Road. "Crestwood," built by Eager's parents, dates to 1915 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. A wing was added in 1928 and, when Mr. and Mrs. William G. Eager Jr. acquired the property in 1982, historically correct renovations were made under the direction of Valdosta architect Richard Hill.

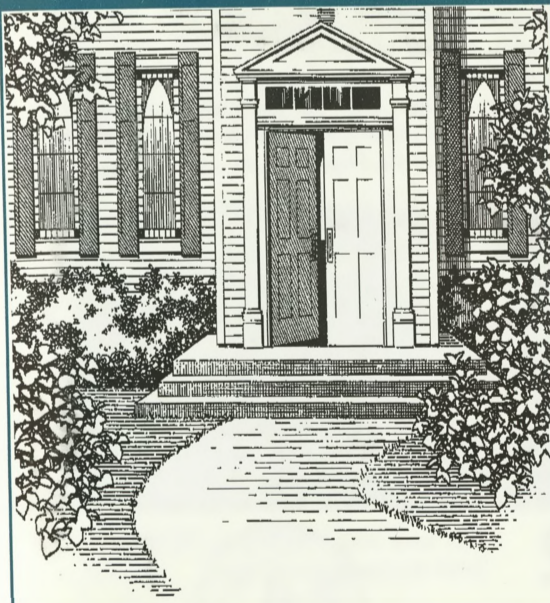
Only the kitchen was substantially changed. The house, designed in the Arts and Crafts style, includes many beautiful architectural features of the period and a number of important antiques, as well as fine ancestral portraits and oil paintings. Refreshments will be served.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilby Coleman's residence at 1203 Hickory Drive is the final home on the tour. A working artist, blacksmith and retired lawyer, Coleman has filled his house with his own sculpture and also works by local artists. There are several paintings by Don Pettigrew, a diptych by Lillian Brooks and works by Eddie Norris, Ann Goldthwaite and others.

Coleman's blacksmith shop/studio will be open to the tour in which he will be working. Coleman built his home to his own design in the 1950s, using bricks salvaged from the Oglesby house in Quitman and pine floors from the old Valdosta Drug Co.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling or visiting the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., 247-ARTS; or by contacting Sally Motz, guild fundraising chairman, at 244-8519; Margaret Mittiga, publicity co-chairman, at 242-5484; or Merry Jo Whidby, publicity co-chairman, at 244-7773.

Tour of Homes and Art



Sunday, September 26, 1993

2:00 - 6:00 p.m.



Nancy Phillips, assistant to the director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission, poses with a piece by Valdosta artist Wilby Coleman called *A Teal* at Valdosta's Cultural Arts Center.

Cultural Arts Center

LOWNDES/VALDOSTA ARTS COMMISSION

Cultural arts getting more of spotlight

By Judy Schramm
Staff writer

In this South Georgia city where history is deeply rooted in the rich soils of agriculture and where fame is found in high school football, the cultural arts have taken root and are beginning to bloom.

Thanks to a group of Valdosta residents eager to keep the arts alive in their city, art connoisseurs have their choice of browsing through galleries, listening to symphonies or attending plays.

By tapping a large number of residents eager to support local arts, relying on the talents of local artists and garnishing support from county and city governments, Valdosta's art commission is forging ahead with its plans for the community.

"People are really working hard at their art," said Roberta George, director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission, the umbrella organization that oversees the city's various art guilds. "When we can get 30 to 40 people to sign up for a creative writing class, that's wonderful."

In the past five years, Valdosta's once-homeless artistic community has found a home at the Cultural Arts Center, where local and regional artists display their work.

VALDOSTA

ARTS EVENTS

Here are some of the programs scheduled in Valdosta for November:

- Nov. 9: Heifetz String Septet performs Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*.
- Nov. 10-19: Valdosta State University Theatre presents *Hamlet* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* in repertory.
- Nov. 11-20: Theatre Guild Valdosta presents Mary Chase's *Harvey*.
- Nov. 13: Valdosta Symphony Orchestra performs at the university's Whitehead Auditorium.
- Nov. 30: A University's Jazz Ensemble and Spotlighters concert.

For additional listings on events or ticket information, contact Valdosta State's art department at (912) 333-2150, or the Lowndes-Valdosta Cultural Arts Center at (912) 247-ARTS.

The Theatre Guild has set up shop in the old downtown movie theater, which it is renovating. And the community joined with Valdosta State University to form the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra.

(See COMMUNITY, Page B-8)

Join Us for an Especially Impressive 1993-94 Season!

A Noteworthy Season

Jacksonville Symphony "Pops Concert"
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1993

Heifetz String Septet "The Four Seasons"
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1993
STUDENT MATINEE 1:00 PM

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1994

Ballet South - Snow White & Others
Master Class
THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1994

All performances at 8:00 p.m.
at Mathis City Auditorium.

All seats are reserved, \$60 per person for the season. Individual performances \$20/15. Call 247-2787 for ticket information.
Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center
1204 N. Patterson

Season Tickets Still Only \$60

Community support helps



— Ricardo Romagosa/staff

Johnny Brooks and his wife, Lillian (background), of Hahira stop in to see the display at Valdosta's Cultural Arts Center, where local and regional artists display their work, in mid-October. Lillian Brooks is also a local artist who works in watercolors.

arts flourish in Valdosta

(From Page B-1)

"Overall, it's remarkable the amount of support we get," said Robert Welch, dean of Valdosta State University's art school. "There's a real concern, a civic spirit in this community you don't find in a lot of cities."

That spirit translates into well-attended concerts of both local and visiting artists, art shows at both the university and community art galleries and plays performed by professional actors, students and local residents.

"All of this has happened in the last four to five years," said Wilby Coleman, a Valdosta lawyer-turned-artist who, until three years ago, had nowhere in town to display his metal sculptures. "The support has been real good coming from nowhere. We've got a nice response from regular old folks."

And while the artistic community has quietly settled into new nesting places, — the theater, art center and Whitehead Auditorium, where the symphony performs — it's now ready to showcase itself to the region.

With plays this season that include *Harvey*, *The Foreigner*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Nunsense*, Theatre Guild Valdosta is set on making a name for itself in its first year in the downtown theater.

"There's a real level of enjoyment in the community that allows people to say, 'Lord, that's my mailman up there,' or 'That's the

checkout boy at the grocery store," said Mary Ann Green, Theatre Guild president.

Meanwhile, Valdosta State students have their own agenda, with upcoming plays *Hamlet*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* and *Rumors*, to name a few.

Already this season, the Arts Commission is getting attention with its Presenter Series, which brings out-of-town performances.

Earlier this year, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra performed in Valdosta, and the series will bring the nationally known Heifetz String Septet to town for a performance of *The Four Seasons* on Nov. 9.

In the city's art gallery, regional swamp art is being replaced by local high school art for a November show, open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

And building on strong support garnered in the past three years, the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra is stretching its wings this year.

The group will perform Handel's *Water Music*, Haydn's *Symphony No. 104* and Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* in a concert Nov. 13.

It is also planning concerts for January, March and May.

Still, as Welch says, a lot of people in the community and surrounding areas haven't yet discovered the cultural arts in Valdosta.

"I think our presence is somewhat understated," Welch said.

"We probably should make a big deal of it. Right now, we're kind of doing our own thing."

The Valdosta Daily Times

Sunday, October 17, 1993

Swamp Fest: What is a Swamp Fest? It begins with months of preparation; a newly constructed building; artists in their studios painting their impressions of a swamp; store managers donating their time, food and drink; and staff members and volunteers working feverishly to get ready for a single night — two hours to be exact.

Last Monday, the Cultural Arts Center held its Grand Re-opening. Publix Supermarket provided a banquet consisting of seafood and party trays, and Warehouse Package Store served the wine. A string trio provided music appropriate to the occasion. Margo Cline and her models for Withlacoochee Wear arrived in a chauffeured limousine representing the world of fashion, and Wilby Coleman, chairman of LVAC, was dressed in pith helmet and full swamp attire looking like a tour guide at the Okefenokee Swamp Park.



Kristine Harnage

This 'n That

Valdostan Gets Grant For Her Short Stories

My congratulations to Roberta George! As founding editor of Snake Nation Press and the new interim director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, she has been awarded an Individual Artist Grant for \$1,500 by the Georgia Council for the Arts.

Mrs. George received the grant for a collection of short stories she is writing about the Lebanese community in South Georgia. In the stories, she shows the unique contribution that the Lebanese people added to the Southern towns they lived in.

"The South is not just magnolia trees and mint juleps, but a wonderful, terrible, exciting mixture of nationalities and traditions," Mrs. George said. "Each group of people has its stories to tell."

Mrs. George, with Nancy Phillips, will be teaching a creative writing class this fall at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., featuring such noted writers as Mary Hood, Robert Earle Price, Stephen Corey, David Bottoms and others. For more information, call Mrs. George at 249-8334 or the Center at 247-ARTS.

New LVAC Director Renaissance Woman

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer



Roberta George is a true Renaissance woman. She's been a seamstress, a rental property manager, a day care center manager, a teacher, is currently a writer and an editor, and now, she's the executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, recently appointed by a unanimous vote of the LVAC board of directors.

As director, she said she hopes to write major capital grants, bring in varied performances for future *Presenter Series*, and get the groups associated with LVAC, such as Theatre Guild Valdosta and the Valdosta Choral Guild, more funding.

A native of Bisbee, Ariz., Mrs. George's father was in the U.S. Air Force, and she grew up all over the United States. She graduated from Valdosta High School in 1960 and married Noel George in 1961.

The Georges have seven children and four grandchildren. George coached football and baseball at Lowndes High School 40 years and now teaches at Valwood School.

Mrs. George received her bachelor's degree in English from Valdosta State College in 1983 and her master's degree in English from Florida State University in 1989.

She's the founding editor of *Snake Nation Press* in Valdosta, has two novels making the rounds of New York agents for possible publication, received an Individual Artists Grant this year for a collection of stories, and has had many poems and short stories published in national publica-

tions. She's also taught developmental English for six years at Abraham Baldwin College and at Valdosta State and has taught creative writing two years for VSU, the Thomasville Cultural Center and LVAC.

She's also giving public readings four times at VSC and eight times at FSU, all by invitation; is a charter member of the South Georgia Writers Guild, was a finalist in a Dublin Play Competition and was a volunteer teacher for reading disabled children.

When asked how long she plans to be executive director of LVAC and editor of *Snake Nation Press*, she laughed and said, "Probably until I'm dead from it all! I really give everything my all, sometimes too much, but I'm looking forward to it and think it's a big challenge. It helps that the board has given me this vote of confidence (the unanimous vote).

"I'm working on big grants right now to bring in money. I think the current renovation and expansion of the Cultural Arts Center is wonderful. It's going to look great! I'm really going to enjoy this new job."

6-C Sunday, September 19, 1993



Roberta George works on a computer in Commission's facility on North Patterson Street — Times Photo by Paul Leavy.

6-C Sunday, September 26, 1993

The Valdosta Daily Times

Jacksonville Symphony Performing On Oct. 12

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Tickets are on sale for the Pops Concert to be performed by the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. Oct. 12 at Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St. There will be a pre-concert dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the all-purpose room at the auditorium for anyone interested. The price of the dinner is \$15 for adults and \$6 for children.

This concert is the first performance in the 1993-94 Presenter Series, sponsored by the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission. The orchestra will be under the direction of Associate Conductor Ethan James Dulsky.

The program will include music from "Carmen," three dances from "The Bartered Bride," the overture to "The Pirates of Penzance," the hoe-down from "Rodeo," the "Overture to Candide," music from "Porgy and Bess" and "South Pacific," and selections from "Les Miserables."

Performing more than 200 concerts from September through May, the JSO brings music to more than 170,000 people annually. In recent seasons, the JSO has performed with such world-class performers as Itzhak Perlman, Luciano Pavarotti, Jes-

Through its education program, it reaches more than 75,000 children and young people each year. Artistic excellence and community support have brought new levels of achievement and recognition to the JSO, making it one of the nation's finest regional orchestras.

Dulsky has been with the JSO since January 1993. Before coming to Jacksonville, he served as apprentice conductor of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra and as principal guest conductor of the Bach Camerata. During the past two seasons, he has conducted the San Diego Symphony, the Charleston Symphony, the Bach Camerata and the Holland-Moritz Chamber Orchestra.

For the past three seasons, he has been principal conductor of the brass ensemble of the San Diego Symphony, the Symphony Brass. He was also music director of the Pacific Chamber Ensemble for four seasons. During the summer of 1988, he received a prestigious conducting fellowship at the Music Academy of the West, where he served as assistant conductor to Lawrence Leighton Smith.

He is a participant and has advanced to the highest level in the ongoing American Symphony Orchestra League Conductors Program, where he has studied conducting with numerous master conductors. And, for the summers of 1989 and 1990, he was awarded a conducting fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival, working under Murry Sidlin, Lawrence Foster, John Nelson and Leonard Slatkin.

For information or tickets, visit the Cultural Arts Center, or call 247-



The art work of Marcia Flatau, pictured above, will be among that on exhibit Oct. 11 at the grand re-opening of the Cultural Arts Center — Photo from Center.

Swamp Festival Celebrates Art Center Re-Opening

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

The Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., is celebrating grand re-opening with an Old-Fashioned Swamp Festival from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 11. The event is being catered by Publix Supermarket and Warehouse Li-

quors. There will be plenty of Swamp treats and Swamp art to feast your eyes, as well as your stomach. Patrons will be able to view the expanded gallery and see all the latest improvements to the Arts Center. Margo Cline of Withlacoochee Wear will be at the festival with her models, showing off her new line of summer clothes.

"It has been a long, hot summer," said Roberta George, executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission. "Now that the construction is through, we want to invite you to see what we have done and to share in the celebration." For more information, visit the Cultural Arts Center, or call 247-ARTS.

Review: Theatre Guild Production Thrilling

By KATHY BLANTON

I sat stargazing in amazement, slack-jawed in wonderment and thrilled to goosebumps as I witnessed my first performance of "The Sound of Music" from the Old Dosta Theatre by the new Theatre Guild.

Expecting a dim shadow of the outstanding Rodgers and Hammerstein production, I was totally stunned by the talent and resourcefulness of the local guild's rendition. Never seeing the movie as a lovers story, I was impressed how it accented this theme. No scenes were skipped and each act was complete in purpose as the actors gave it their all. Particularly realistic were the nun chorales, sounding full and on pitch; the children's scenes, reflecting the spontaneity and liveliness of children the world round; and the costumes/scenes which did reflect the correct time period and were efficiently managed while including some audience participation.

Outstanding performances were made by a beautifully controlled soprano, Maria, a.k.a. Carla Carol; an exuberant and boisterous Max, a.k.a. Jerry Dickson; and a perfect match for the Mother Abbess, Sue Frislie.

Notable performances were made by Mark Daugherty as Rolf, fanatically and romantically impressive; Elsa's Hope Ince, gracefully petite but breathing fire on the Captain, played by Rick Patrick, a noble and distinguished disciplinarian. Mr. Ince's musical contributions and sound effects effectively highlighted and supported the numerous cameo appearances that wove the play into a glorious musical tapestry.

This delightful production will run at 8 p.m. today through Saturday with tickets available at the window for \$10. Meetings, as well as participation in all activities of the Guild, are open to the public, regardless of membership (\$20/year/family). Information on membership and Theatre Guild Valdosta activities is available by calling 24-STAGE.

More than anything, I am glad to be reminded that the small town is the nurturing ground for the big-town stars. Don't miss your chance to smile in joy and beam in pride to Valdosta/Lowndes' "Sound of Music." Thank you cast and crew; it was a pleasure!

Kathy Blanton is a teacher at Lowndes Middle School.

Six Vie For Woman Of Achievement In BPW Contest

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Six local women have been nominated for the Valdosta Business and Professional Women's Woman of Achievement Award.

The winner will be announced at the BPW WOA banquet Thursday at the Comfort Inn.

Shannon E. Cook is nominated by the Valdosta Junior Woman's Club. She is the Community Education coordinator at South Georgia Medical Center, a position she's held since 1991.

In addition to VJWC, she is active in Habitat for Humanity, the Lowndes/Echols Unit of the American Cancer Society, Community Wellness Council, American Heart Association board of directors, Lowndes County Council on Child Abuse, Special Olympics Committee and Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce.

She has received awards from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society and was the recipient of the Barbara K. Parker Scholarship Award through the Georgia Society of Health Education and Training.

She graduated magna cum laude from Valdosta State College with a bachelor of arts in English and is in the master's in public administration program at VSU. She and her husband, Jack Cook, are members of Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

Carolyn Hall Eager is nominated by Rotary Club of Valdosta. She is a stock broker/financial consultant with The Robinson Humphrey Co., a position she's held 12 years.

In addition to the Rotary Club, she is active with Readers Forum, the Boys and Girls Club of Valdosta, Val-

dosta Symphony Guild, Break Bread Program, United Way, Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, Valdosta-Lowndes County Education 2000 Partnership board of directors, Valdosta Junior Service League and Valdosta Toastmasters.

She has received a Certified Toastmaster Degree, was listed in *Outstanding Young Women of America* in 1973 and *Who's Who of American Women* in 1992.

She holds a bachelor of arts in English and a master's in education, both from VSC. She and her husband, William G. Eager III, have two sons, and she and her family are members of Christ Episcopal Church.

Roberta Ann George is nominated by the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, where she serves as executive director. She is also founding editor of Snake Nation Press and teaches developmental English at VSU and Lowndes Correctional Institute.

She is also active with the Georgia Federation of Women, Cultural Arts Guild, South Georgia Writers Guild, Valdosta Theatre Guild and Wymondausis Woman's Club.

Mrs. George received an Individual Artist Grant for a collection of short stories she is working on, was named Valdosta Writers Guild Woman of Achievement in 1990 and won the Best Novel in Progress Award at the Sandhills Writers Conference in 1985.

She has a bachelor of arts in English from VSC and a master's in English from Florida State University. She and her husband, Noel George, have seven children and four grandchildren and are members of St. John Catholic Church.

Dr. Sara Louise Hanes is nominated by the local chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). She is a professor of English at VSU.

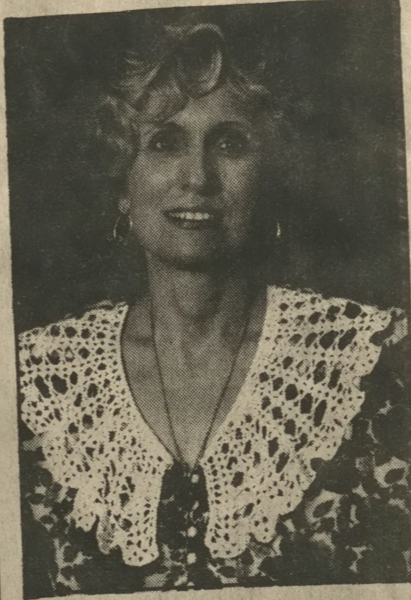
See WOA, Page 5-B



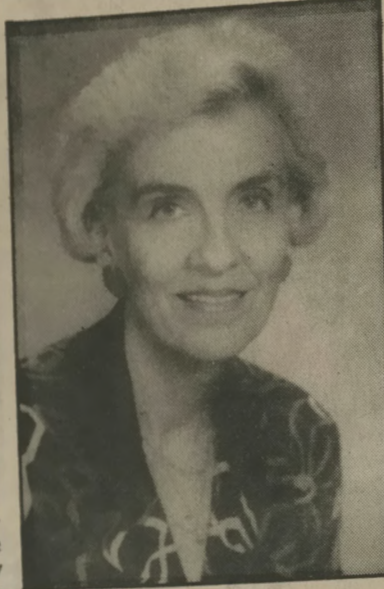
SHANNON COOK
Valdosta Junior Woman's Club



CAROLYN EAGER
Rotary Club Of Valdosta



ROBERTA GEORGE
Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission



LOUISE HANES
AAUW



MARGARET NISBET
Jasmine Garden Club



LIZ RICHARDS
LAMP

WOA

From Page 3-B

In addition to AAUW, she is active in the American Association of University Professors, American Dialect Society, Southeastern Conference on Linguistics, College English Association, Southern Atlantic Modern Language Association, Modern Language Association, American Cancer Society board and Delta Kappa Gamma.

She holds the first doctorate in linguistics from The University of Georgia in Athens and is in the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society.

She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Brenau College in Gainesville and a master's in English and doctorate in linguistics, both from UGA.

Margaret M. Nisbet is nominated by Jasmine Garden Club. She has worked as a secretary, a bookkeeper and a real estate sales associate. Currently, she remains very active with community volunteer work.

She is active in the Valdosta Alumnae Chapter of Phi Mu, Valdosta Camellia Society, United Daughters of The Confederacy, Georgia Division of The United Daughters of The Confederacy and Daughters of The American Revolution.

She has had an award named for her — the Margaret M. Nisbet Outstanding Alumna Award, which is

awarded annually by Kappa Beta Chapter of Phi Mu Alumnae and which she was the first recipient, and she won the Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award by the Phi Mu National Council.

She attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and the University of Texas in Austin. She and her husband, Thomas Nisbet, have one son and two grand-children and are members of First Presbyterian Church.

Elizabeth Richards is nominated by Lowndes Associated Ministries to People Inc. (LAMP), where she serves as administrative assistant.

She is also active with the Azalea City Woman's Club, Special Olympics, AIDS Consortium, and stock youth from her church.

She was named Outstanding Member of Azalea City Woman's Club in 1985, Special Olympics Outstanding Female Volunteer in 1989 and Outstanding Volunteer in 1991, and she served as president of the Valdosta Junior High Band Boosters in 1987-88.

She graduated from the Academy of Medical Technology in Georgetown, Washington, D.C., and has previously worked as a laboratory technician, a paraprofessional and a handicapped tutor. She and her husband, Frank Richards, have two children.

Group Names Woman Of Achievement

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Roberta George was named 1993 Woman of Achievement Thursday by the local chapter of Business and Professional Women.

She won over five other nominees at the organization's annual Woman of Achievement banquet at the Comfort Inn.

Upon receiving the award, she said she was flabbergasted. She

said she knew she wasn't going to win when she saw who the other nominees were.

"As everyone knows," she said, "you never accomplish anything by yourself — someone always pushes you."

"This achievement is as much my family and my friends as it is mine."

Mrs. George is the executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission. She is founding

editor of Snake Nation Press of Valdosta and teaches remedial English at Valdosta State University and Lowndes Correctional Institute.

Married to Noel George since 1961, she and her husband have seven children and four grandchildren.

They are members of St. John Catholic Church.



ROBERTA GEORGE

Valdosta Woman Submersed In Arts

By DEAN POLING
Times Staff Writer

She's a whirlwind. Roberta George had just finished teaching her English classes Monday. She steps into the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission building on North Patterson Street, where she is the commission's executive director.

It's a little bit after 3 p.m. She has a meeting with LVAC's board of directors at 4 p.m.

She returns calls, answers visitors' questions about the current artwork on display, and still she has time to joke and laugh with a reporter and photographer there for an interview with her.

Outside the building, she stands by a metal sculpture jokingly dancing with it while reciting poetry.

"All the arts are covered here," she laughs.

Possibly, it is a blend of this fast-paced work ethic and good humor that landed Mrs. George the Business and Professional Women Valdosta chapter's 1993 Woman of Achievement award.

"It was a complete surprise," Mrs. George said of the award she received last week. She was chosen from six nominees for the honor.

She took over as executive director in the wake of Burt Bright's leaving the position when he moved away.

Mrs. George was LVAC's literary director, and she took the helm

just as renovation of the commission's building was completed in August.

Here's a look at some of Mrs. George's varying occupations:

LVAC executive director: "I hadn't planned on taking this job. But when they approached me, it seemed like a great opportunity. ...It's been a lot of fun."

Teaching: She teaches remedial reading classes at Valdosta State University and Lowndes Correctional Institute. She's been teaching for about four years.

Snake Nation Press: Since autumn 1989, Mrs. George and her sister, Nancy Phillips, have run this literary press. It produces four publications a year — "The Snake Nation Review" twice a year, a compilation and a book of poetry annually. "I went down to Tallahassee, (Fla.), and they had different literary magazines. There was nothing like that here." So she started Snake Nation.

But what about spare time for this mother of seven adult children and grandmother?

It's spent raising her two dogs, two cats and her husband, she jokes.

It's also spent writing. Recently, she received an individual artist grant for a series of short stories she's writing.

She also enjoys writing poetry. "I'm a chronic insomniac," she said. "I sit on my back porch at night talking to my dogs. That's when I get my poetry ideas."



Roberta George stands next to a sculpture outside the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Building where she is executive director. Mrs. George is also a teacher, publisher of *The Snake Nation Review*, a wife, a mother, a grandmother and a writer. She recently won the Business and Professional Women Valdosta Chapter's 1993 Woman of Achievement Award — Times Photo by Paul Leavy.