Alliance Center opens new show, plans another

By SUZANNE MOORE
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The newly opened art display at the Abbeville Historical and Cultural Alliance Center is a very diverse combination of folk art, realism, three-dimensional carvings, and abstract compositions featuring the works of Kaplan area artists.

This show is unique, said Jim Bourge, one of the center's volunteers, because "we have several people showing who have never been here before. They bring a different style to the show."

Displayed are the watercolor and pencil impressionistic works of Charolette Gallet Broussard; the mixed media works of Vernes and Joshua Gallet; along with Joshua Gallet's abstract paintings; the folk art miniatures of Evelyn Broussard; the carved ducks of Michael Briolo; oils by Lovelace Monic and Gregory (Klebe) Meaux; and various compositions by Meaux's students.

An interesting feature of this show is that three members, representing two generations of the Gallet family, have works on display.

Vernis Gallet, father of Charlotte Gallet Broussard and Joshua Gallet, has on display a work he did when he was 16-years-old, said Tony Mayard, another volunteer at the center.

Since the center has not displayed too many abstract paintings in the past, Joshua Gallet's paintings are a welcome addition to this show.

"Some of the abstract art has primitive designs repeated, and the works are brought to life with vivid colors," said Mayard, describing Joshua Gallet's art.

The new display began showing on Nov. 16 and will remain in place until Dec. 28. The Alliance Center is opened from 11a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Following the rotation of the Kaplan artists' works, a special religious themed show will be held at the center.

"The next showing is going to be a very special display for two weeks only," explained Mayard.

Entitled "Our Lady Star of the Sea," this "entire showing will be religious works featuring the iconography that will be established in a chapel at Pecan Island," Mayard added.

Theresa dePerrodot Trahan is currently completing her commission of 24 Mary icon panels. Twelve will be on display during this special show.

"We will also have religious carvings by Joe Boatner Hebert and James Bourge; paintings by Jeannie Comeaux and her students, and by me," said Mayard.

This show begins on the Dec. 28 and ends on Jan. 8.

"Following the show, the Mary icons will be placed in the park and in the chapel at Pecan Island," Mayard added.

The site designated for the chapel and devotional park has been donated by Amanda Hanks.