

# Vestavia Hills Art Association

## Newsletter



December 2008

### Enhancing the Artist and Developing Appreciation for Art in the Community

#### *From the President*

*Make plans now to attend our Christmas Luncheon (Dec.13, 12:00, Red Lobster) where we'll just eat and have fun! Don't forget to bring a small gift, under \$10.00. Our next real meeting will be February 2, 2009 at 1:00 at Vestavia Hills Library.*

*I would like to thank all of those who exhibited at our 2008 Show, and all those who came to see it. We have to especially thank John Shadrick for being our Show Chairman, and his committee: Jinger Glasgow, Winnie Cooper, Nada Boner, Nell Howell, Barry Wilson, Lavanna Brazil, Laura Estes. Thank you to all these people who helped put on a show of which we can all be so proud.*

*Marie Taylor*

#### VHAA Calendar for 2009

Jan, No meeting  
Feb. 2, 1:00 PM  
March 2, 1:00 PM  
April 6, 6:30 PM  
May 4, 1:00 PM  
June, No meeting  
July, No meeting  
August 3, 6:30 PM  
September 14, 1:00 PM (screening at 12:00)  
October 5, 6:30 PM (Screening at 5:30)  
November 7, 12:00 Luncheon at Red Lobster

#### Dues are due

Your dues of \$25.00 are due now. This is for Jan.– Dec. 2009. See Ellen at the luncheons or mail to:

Ellen Justice  
147 Redwood Drive  
Trussville, Alabama 35173

*"I believe that art really is a way of life. It's in the appreciation of the details around us that we learn who we are and how to love."*

**Bill Palmer**  
**Featured Artist**



*Bill Palmer loves nature and he loves wood. As a landscaper in Birmingham , AL for 25 years, he developed a keen understanding of how plants grow and how they can be affected by different influences. Pruning was particularly satisfying as he could direct the growth of shrubs and small trees. In this way, Bill was adding his own creative energy to something much larger and more eternal than himself. He was able to assist Nature's grand sculpting. This developed into his mission to create unique sculpted furniture and wall art that will long outlive him and bring pleasure to others for generations to come.*

*If there is a definitive style to Bill Palmer's work, it would have to be his use of natural edges and continuous curves, often flowing from one plane to another, and done with exotic materials. His furniture pieces often evolve from the natural-edged shape of the top or the grain flow in another focal part. His pieces evoke meaning through patterns. The fine details invite closer inspection and start lively conversations. People often rub their hands lovingly across the meticulously finished surfaces.*

*Having been an artist all his life and after extensive art training in college, Bill discovered a passion for woodworking in 1996. A full-time hobby after hours, it developed into a second business in the spring of 2004, as he marked the beginning of his first year as a professional artist. At his very first art festival at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Art in Montgomery , Alabama , his work won the second place award. He has since continued to exhibit at 8-10 art shows a year throughout the south, winning many awards and meeting many new friends and customers along the way. Recently he won "Best of Show" at the Vestavia Hills Art Association's 2008 Show*

*Bill was recently honored with the 2009 Fellowship Award for Craft, a very prestigious grant awarded by the Alabama State Council on the Arts to two craft artists per year. This award, which recognizes artistic excellence as well as professional commitment and maturity, is based on merit of work, career achievement, career potential and service to the state.*

*On September 30, 2007, Bill Palmer retired from landscaping to devote his full time and energy to his wood art. His entire income now comes from sales of his work and the many custom commissions he receives from patrons and art collectors at art shows and festivals throughout the South.*

*He can be reached almost anytime at (205) 621-0727 or by email; [bpcustoms@bellsouth.net](mailto:bpcustoms@bellsouth.net). Some of his work can be viewed online at [www.SouthernArtistry.org/Bill Palmer](http://www.SouthernArtistry.org/Bill_Palmer)*