



Harvest Festival weekend signaled the opening of the newest art exhibit at the Prairie Palette Gallery. On Friday, September 18th, visitors who stepped into the newest display were greeted with the sweet sounds of dulcimer music from Janet Thomson, and a punch and cookie reception served by PORTA Art Club members. Visitors viewed an outstanding variety of artwork and were able to meet the many artists in attendance who were happy to talk with them about their creations.

The continuing display features watercolor scenes of "old Petersburg" and New Salem as seen through the eyes of noted local artist Louise Basso. These original works are on loan from the National Bank of Petersburg for the duration of this show. In addition, original watercolors and limited edition prints from Aneita Gates, Libby Trone, Rich Ford, Marian Pfeiffer, Janet Smith and Kate Worman-Becker line the walls. PORTA graduates Jessica Brown and Bridgette Davis are among the talented local artists whose paintings are also exhibited. Lynn Westfall's unique jewelry and glass creations fill the shelves, while wood carvings ranging from chainsaw figures to intricately carved fish, ducks, and busts of American Indians complete the display.

The show also includes beautiful hand-pieced quilts created by master quilter Charlene Koelling. Athens wood chip carver Judy Mogle offers several original chip-carved boxes and decorative items, along with wall pieces from carver Sharon Sponslor. Photography, fused-glass sculpture, hand-made dulcimers and student art creations from last summer's classes can also be viewed.

Regular gallery hours for this show are: Saturdays from 12-5 and Sundays 12-4 through November 15th. Groups or organizations interested in after hours viewing for their members may make arrangements by contacting CmPS Sponsor Mary Mies at PORTA High School, 632-3216. The Prairie Palette Art Gallery is the project of the PORTA Community Problem Solvers Team.