



PEACHTREE HILLS PLACE®

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PHP Art Exhibit – Candace McNair



I have been collecting Western Art for most of my life. My father and mother, Victor and Harriet Alexander, were both born in the west...Mother in Casper, Wyoming and my father in New Mexico. They were both talented, artistic, intelligent individuals. They met and married in Cody, Wyoming and moved to San Francisco where my dad worked for a saddle making company. Dad designed and tooled and did every part of specular saddles. Mother was raised to be a well-rounded, smart, talented artist.

My two older sisters, Janice and Audrey, were born in San Francisco. My dad started his own saddle company , The Victor Alexander Saddle Company, in Heyward, California in 1942, the year I was born. Dad was recruited to the Hollywood Saddle Company and my sister Darcy was born in Hollywood. Dad was then recruited to Tex Tan Leather Company in Texas. We lived there several years and then dad was recruited to Buford, Georgia by the Bona Allen Saddle Company. He became their production manager, and he did all kinds of good things. We moved to Atlanta and my baby brother, Victor Alexander Jr., was born at Emory Hospital.

The saddle you see in the display was made in 1942. I purchased the saddle from a rancher in California that read a book written about my dad. The book he read was 'Victor Alexander and the Saddle: Art, Craft, and Business' by Paul Fees. I am donating a copy of the book to the PHP Lending Library. The rancher contacted me and I gladly and happily purchased the saddle from him. It was very racked out and needed full restoration. I had it sent to Keith Seidel Saddlery in Cody, Wyoming. Keith took out every stitch and restored the saddle as you see it today. The stand for the saddle was custom made by Dr. Jim Ciaravella who lives in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

The paintings on display are originals that I collected from galleries and auction houses in Wyoming, Montana, and all over the west. I have met the artists and consider them my friends. I appreciate their skill and creative ability to translate the meaning of the west to canvas and bronze.

I served on the Advisory Committee to the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming and have enjoyed being a member of the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, Georgia. I call visiting the west and the art of the west that I see every day in my home my attitude adjustment.

Please come by and see the rest of my collection if you are interested. – Candace McNair, #118