

Artist of the Month—Connie Giebels



My name is Connie Giebels. My medium is acrylics with sea shells, most of the time. My designs are all hand done, with my imagination. My signature on all my work is the Coquina shell that I make to look like a butterfly.

We moved to The Villages in May 2013 and live in the village of Pinellas. I moved here from Naples, Florida where I had lived for 30 years. During 28 of those years, I helped the elderly in their homes.

I was born in Rotterdam, Holland during WWII. My father said if we survive the war, we will move to the United States, which we did in 1947. I was 4 years old.



We lived in New Jersey until I was 11, with fond memories. Each summer we would spend a month in Normandy Beach. That was the beginning of my love of the beach and shells.

We moved to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in 1954 because of my sisters' health. The good weather helped. Spent a lot of time on the beach collecting shells. I started making gifts for family and friends and they loved my work.

My Dad was a very talented man and also a great artist. My sister and I picked up some of his talents. For the past 30 years, I have been making items with sea shells. Mirrors, topiary trees, candle holders, baskets filled with shells and pictures on canvas, etc.

I have been in many shows in the past 3 years. I have had a lot of fun to see and work with such a talented group of people.

