

## SEPTEMBER 2011—ARTIST OF THE MONTH—BILLIE EDWARDS



*I* moved to The Villages in 2005 from Chesapeake, VA where I attended Tidewater Community College and received a degree in Media Advertising Arts.. The program included studies in illustration, design, painting, drawing, broadcasting and work in various mediums.

*My* love of art goes back to my high school days where art was my favorite subject. My first creative outlet was in the early 70's when I began cake decorating. From 1977 to early 1979, my husband and I had a cake shop in Virginia Beach. After many long hours and sore, aching hands we closed the business. That led me to college and commercial art.



*After* getting my degree I worked for a series of government contractors doing illustrations of missiles, ships, aircraft parts and layout work. In the late 80's CAD or computer aided drawing came on the scene. I was not interested in learning how to use the computer for art work and left the field to manage a gourmet foods manufacture.



*In* the mid 90's I began taking some water color workshops and joined a local art group. That was my first effort a showing and selling my work.



*Since* moving to The Villages I have enjoyed having the time to work in watercolors, acrylics, and most recently batiks.



*I* have done several murals in The Villages and enjoy participating in local art shows. I have been a member of the VAA & VAL since 2006.

