

## **Artist of the Month—Phyllis Shuckstes**

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I live in the Village of Mira Mesa. I am from Knoxville, Tennessee but my husband David and I have resided in California, Virginia, Maryland, and South Carolina. We also lived for 8 years in Alice Springs, Australia.

I have lived in The Villages for over 5 years and I find it grand that everyone can participate in art classes at the Recreation Centers. I am so impressed with the array of talent here. I have taken art classes in Florida, California and Australia, and have worked in oils and print making and even pottery. But I prefer to work in watercolors. I have held several art shows in the past in Florida and Australia and taught painting at the community college level. In Virginia, I was involved with artists in The Torpedo Factory, and with a gallery in Occoquan. But once I was introduced to watercolors, it became my very favorite media. It is a difficult media but one that I truly enjoy. My studio is in a corner of our kitchen so I can sit and work on my latest effort whenever I get the creative urge. My art efforts today are primarily for myself and I just enjoy the free flowing art of watercolors. I like to say that I am not an artist but a watercolorist. Thank you for your interest.