

Artist of the Month—Lois Bixby



I started drawing when I was a kid. At ten, I won a contest sponsored by the Mickey Mouse Club show in Pittsburgh for drawing a Tammy Doll. I won three Tammy dolls and their complete wardrobe and went on the show for the presentation. I also attended a children's art program on Saturdays at the Pittsburgh Museum of art and got some recognition there. Eventually, I went to Kent State University as a fine arts major. Although I did come in second place for a charcoal drawing I did, I soon realized that there were lots of people there way more talented than I was. Then May 4th, 1970 happened, and the school was closed.

When I eventually went back to school, I went as an English major. I got away from art completely.

I retired from The University of Akron Ohio as an English professor, and my husband and I moved to The Villages. About a year and a half ago, I went to the art show at The Eisenhower Center with a friend. I was walking around thinking "I want to do this."



I went to Michaels and bought a cheap set of acrylic paints. Why acrylic when I had previously been into drawing? I guess because they were on sale. Now I am working mainly with acrylic and experimenting a bit with alcohol ink.

My first attempts were pretty lame, but I feel like I am getting the hang of it. The Art Around the Square at Spanish Springs was the first art show I have ever been in. I actually sold some paintings. I am so happy about that because I feel it validates calling myself an artist.

