

Artist of the Month—Cheri Ptacek



Upon retiring as Director of Operations in Heme/Onc/BMT at the University of Minnesota Medical School in the Twin Cities, my husband and I made the huge decision to move to The Villages, leaving our 4 kids and grandkids behind. We do spend quality time together through visits, so we still believe it was a good decision. We have lived in the Village of Duval for the past 5 years.

As soon as we moved here, I began taking watercolor classes and workshops. I had no previous experience, but have always loved the look of watercolor paintings. I decided to devote all my artistic time to watercolor rather than delve into other media. The more I learn about watercolor, the more difficult it seems to become – but also, the better my paintings have become. I realized that as you learn more, your idea of what’s “good” changes. The more you paint, the more you learn how much you don’t know

I have been the Newsletter Editor for the Visual Arts Association for the past 2 ½ years and serve on the Board. I participate in shows and exhibits sponsored by both VAA and VAL. I also belong to CFWS and FWS, and am a member of AWS and Women in Watercolor. I have won a few awards. I am caregiver to my husband who has Parkinsons with diffused Lewy Body dementia and serve as an online Caregivers Support Group Leader for Elder Options. I am busy, but continue to take both online and in-person watercolor workshops. I’ve not yet found my niche. I paint both bold and soft. I’m determined to learn more and improve. It is my passion.

