

## Artist of the Month—Connie Giebels



I was born in Rotterdam, Holland and moved to New Jersey when I was 4 along with my parents and 2-year-old sister Milly!

I always liked art in school and my father was a very gifted self-taught artist in oil painting. I would watch my father paint and how he did different things. I started in oils too and won 1st Place in a school dental contest. I received a \$100.00 savings bond and an oil paint set! That started me on my art adventure at age 11.

My husband is retired Executive Chef who also was born in Holland and came to the U.S.A at age 21. We met in Michigan in 1965. We have 1 daughter and 1 son, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter. We have been married 58 years.

I changed to acrylic painting over the last 30 years. I also discovered seashells as an interesting art form. Living in Naples, FL for 30 years made it easy to collect shells off the beach and in some stores. I would make all kinds of things with shells for my family and friends.

Then I moved to The Villages in 2013 and belong to the VAA and VAL, thanks to my sister Milly, and I love it.

Being retired has given me more time to create my artwork.

