

Through Their Lens

A Series of Interviews with Active Grand Photos Volunteers

Judy Quimby

A member for several years, Judy coordinates the marketing and graphics for Grand Photos. **When did your interest in photography begin?** I really became interested in photography as a means to become a better artist. I always took photos of my children and family travel but never with an eye to do anything more than documenting. I also enjoyed using those photographs to create family photo books & calendars. Once I retired, I had the opportunity to revive a long dormant interest in art and I began painting in soft pastel.



How did you arrive at Grand? My husband and I were already living full time in another part of the Phoenix Valley and decided it was time to investigate active retirement communities. We purchased our home here three years ago and the first club we joined was Grand Photos.



What do you most enjoy about Grand Photos? The amazing people. Every person has been so welcoming and willing to generously share their friendship and photography knowledge - there are some incredibly knowledgeable club members. When we joined Grand Photos, we signed up for classes to learn all the features of our Smartphone cameras. We soon added other classes in composition and creative photo editing or post processing as I learned photographers call it. We've enjoyed exploring Arizona through our participation in photo shoots both virtually and in person. Travelling together and taking photos as a small group is a great way to share friendship and

ideas.

How did you find yourself doing Grand Photos graphics and marketing? I met Richard Coles the first year we lived here when taking his introduction to photo shoots class. At that time, he was leader of the marketing team. He soon invited me to work with him on Club marketing and now I lead that team helping to generate creative advertising and promotional materials for the Club. Of course, each project is a collaborative one and I appreciate being able to draw on the expertise of other Club members.



What is it about photography that has maintained your interest over so many years? I still feel I am a relative newbie to photography with so much yet to learn. Post processing apps offer endless creative avenues to explore. Cameras are constantly evolving and there are so many ways to manipulate an image to convey ideas. I have graduated from using my smartphone solely to learning how to use the DSLR camera that has been waiting in my closet for years. I especially like the long lens that allows me to photograph people in candid settings and subjects beyond the limited zoom of my smartphone camera.

What are your favorite things to photograph? I'm drawn to the light and to color as I imagine most photographers are. I love being outdoors: plants, landscape, small details, architecture, texture, an unusual juxtaposition or perspective all tempt me to create an image that hopefully reflects what I saw in a unique way.

