

Through Their Lens

A Series of Interviews with Active Grand Photos Volunteers

Larry Lindner



A past Club President, Larry has served many volunteer roles including as monitor, education class instructor, photo shoot leader, and SIG facilitator.

When did your interest in photography begin? Ansel Adams' superb black and white images provided me with an early challenge to "see the West" and record my experiences. I purchased my first camera with high school graduation money. During my career in the Western US, I always lived within a half hour of being able to hike in the mountains. I replaced older cameras with newer models to take advantage of the benefits of improved images.

How did you arrive at Grand? I retired from the US Forest Service in late 1999 and took a job with the AZ Dept. of Transportation in early 2000 and moved to SCG. I joined Grand Photos shortly after it became a standalone club, but didn't get too involved due to my full-time job. After full retirement in 2006, I was able to more actively participate in Grand Photos.

What do you most enjoy about Grand Photos? Spending time with others who are also interested in improving their photography skills. Sharing images, attending classes, and Special Interest Groups to learn more about various aspects related to photography also appeal to me.

How did you find yourself facilitating the Landscape Special Interest Group (SIG) and Micro 4/3rds SIG? Over several months of strong "encouragement" I was persuaded to start a Landscape SIG to benefit club members. After finally relenting to requests, I found that I enjoyed facilitating the group for about four years. More recently, I have been the facilitator of the Micro 4/3rds SIG, which came about when I started asking other members with Olympus OMD questions about how to use some of the new camera features.



What is it about photography that has maintained your interest over so many years? My first, somewhat flippant response is usually, "Photography provides a good excuse to visit new and beautiful country." But that's not really the whole story. Yes, I love to travel to new and wild places. But the discipline of selecting a meaningful composition of what I observe is a great stimulation to not only travel to see new places, but also to learn more about how to make my next images better. When viewing other members' images during SIG meetings and

at the spring and fall competitions I am reminded that I need to work continuously to stay current with advances in photography software, hardware and skill levels. It's incredible how the photography in our competitions and in our Studio galleries has improved over the years!

What are your favorite things to photograph? I have always been drawn to capturing big landscapes, but have become increasingly interested in the details that are easily overlooked. The colors and textures of flowers, bark, lichen, and so many other small but intensely interesting aspects of our environment provide opportunities to capture beautiful detail on a small scale as well as the larger, more obvious scenes.

