

Through Their Lens

A Series of Interviews with Active Grand Photos Volunteers

Margaret Maione

An ardent Club supporter, Margaret has served in many volunteer roles including monitor, social team, website assistant, print & digital competition team and marketing team. Currently, she volunteers as education team member, print & digital competition team member and an instructor.



When did your interest in photography begin? I can't remember a time when there wasn't a camera in our household. When I was in my teens, I bought an instamatic camera with drop-in film and enjoyed photographing my friends and family. Over the years, I continued to enjoy photographing my kids and travels with a variety of point 'n shoot cameras. Finally, in the late go's, I purchased a Canon Rebel. Owning a DSLR was a big change from film. I learned to do some simple editing and even a little Photoshop. It wasn't until I came to Grand Photos that I learned how to configure a camera using manual settings, more advanced processing and so many other things.



How did you arrive at Grand? About 7 years ago, I had just retired. My husband and I rented a house in Grand for three months to escape the Wyoming winters. We liked the Phoenix area and decided to look for a house to buy. We looked at many houses and places but couldn't find any we liked as well as Grand. Finally, two weeks before we were due to leave, we found a house in Grand and bought it.

What do you enjoy most about Grand Photos? I think the thing I enjoy the most at Grand Photos is the sense of family. When I first came to Grand Photos, I was greeted by happy, fun-loving people who made me feel welcome and that has never changed. If I need help, advice or just a friend, I have found all at Grand Photos.

You have held a variety of positions in the club, how did those come about? I enjoyed the club and wanted to become more active with a sense of purpose. One way to do that was to volunteer. I started with the Social Committee, moved on to help with the website and so on. Wherever there was something I felt I could help with or learn from, I signed up. It's kind of what you do when you belong to a club; get involved and help out.

What is it about photography that has maintained your interest over so many years? I enjoy the creative process but didn't like the results I obtained from traditional art forms like painting or drawing. I was seeking an art form to express my creativity and photography proved to be the one. It's challenging, creative and a learning process with no end. Sharing with all the creative minds at the Club is not only inspiring but nudges my creativity to higher levels.

What are your favorite things to photograph? I love photography no matter what the subject is. But if pressed, I enjoy the spontaneity and challenge of shooting birds and wildlife plus the creative freedom of photographic abstracts.



