

# Through Their Lens

## A Series of Interviews with Active Grand Photos Volunteers

### Ron Pescitani



A dedicated volunteer, Ron Pescitani serves as monitor, back up monitor coordinator, a Grand Photos education class instructor and is now coordinator of the Studio facilities and supplies.

**When did your interest in photography begin?** I bought my first camera in 1980. I didn't use it all that much, but in 1995 I bought my first digital camera and from that point my interest just snowballed. I had a friend who was excellent at processing, I learned a lot from him. I bought a computer and Photo Shop Elements. At first there was a steep learning curve. From then on, I continued to upgrade to the latest cameras to keep up with the most recent technology.

**How did you arrive at Grand?** I started vacationing in Arizona in the mid-90s in the east valley because I wanted to retire in the Valley. I had also been coming out to this area frequently before Grand was even built. Carol and I got married in 1998 and we bought a spec house in 2001. You can't beat Grand as a place to live. We fell in love with it.

**What do you most enjoy about Grand Photos?** Every day there is something new and I enjoy helping people when I can. I like being monitor and training others. The classes and members are great. I enjoy instructing the matting and the canvas stretching classes.

**How did you find yourself scheduling monitors, coordinating Studio facilities and supplies and your other Grand Photos volunteer activities?**

When I joined there were no assigned monitors. Whoever volunteered to be the monitor would open up the Studio. At that time there was no keypad on the entrance door, we had to check out the key at the Adobe. I began monitoring from the time I became a member in 2009. Eventually I took over the monitor scheduling from Charlie Farrell and did that for 3 years. I also looked after the 50/50 draws at the membership meetings for 3 and a half



years. I assisted Charlie with coordinating the Studio and facilities and eventually took over the position in 2010. I just keep after things to make sure we don't run out of supplies. I'm not one to sit at home and watch



TV. When I'm in the Studio, I'm either helping someone or learning something new. It makes me feel like I've accomplished something by helping others.

**What is it about photography that has maintained your interest over so many years?** I started out with landscape photography, then macro. Now my interest has turned to wildlife, mostly birds. I like to keep up with the times so staying up with the latest equipment is interesting.

**What are your favorite things to photograph?** At the moment it's birds!

