

## New pastimes help keep senility at bay

At age 76, Anna Mary Robertson's worsening arthritis forced her to give up the embroidering that had occupied her leisure time for many years.

She decided, however, that her hands were steady enough for painting. By the time she died at age 101, some 25 years after she began her new career, Anna was a famous artist with a worldwide reputation.

Anna Robertson, popularly known as Grandma Moses, delighted the world with her primitive style American images.

James Michener, one of our grandest storytellers, didn't have his first book published until he



Ansel Adams, 78, remains active in photography and an energetic inspiration to Monte Nagler, who took this picture of his mentor.

## photography Monte Nagler

was 40 years of age. And even then, "Tales of the South Pacific" was not well received. Years passed until Michener gained his reputation.

IT DOESN'T follow we should all strive to the levels of Grandma Moses and James Michener. The point is that it's never too late to begin a new endeavor or take up a new avocation.

People today are working less and retiring earlier. With an abundance of available leisure hours, the opportunity has never been so readily at hand to begin a new and exciting challenge.

Photography can not only be an emotionally satisfying hobby, but it can be an excellent way of expressing yourself and your perception of the important things in your life, no matter what your age.

THERE IS AN abundance of camera clubs and nature groups in the area with members ranging in age from their teens through their senior citizen years.

You'll find the interaction and camaraderie between photographers of all ages stimulating. There is an assortment of ages and backgrounds among students in my classes, and I get a particular thrill when an elderly person signs up and begins photography as a hobby.

Ansel Adams, who will soon turn 79, remains highly active in photography. Currently, he is revising his "Basic Photo Series" books. It consists of five volumes, and he still finds plenty of time to shoot, print, teach and lecture.

I believe the major reasons Adams remains so young at heart and full of energy are his love of photography and his devotion to promoting the medium.

© 1980 by Monte Nagler. The writer is an area businessman, West Bloomfield resident and president of the Greater Detroit Camera Clubs Council.

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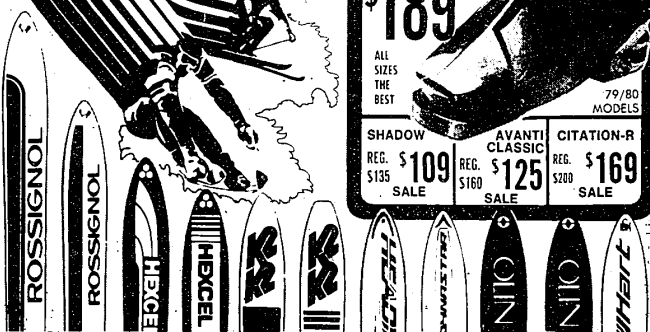
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