

Through Their Lens

A Series of Interviews with Active Grand Photos Volunteers

Jim Barbour



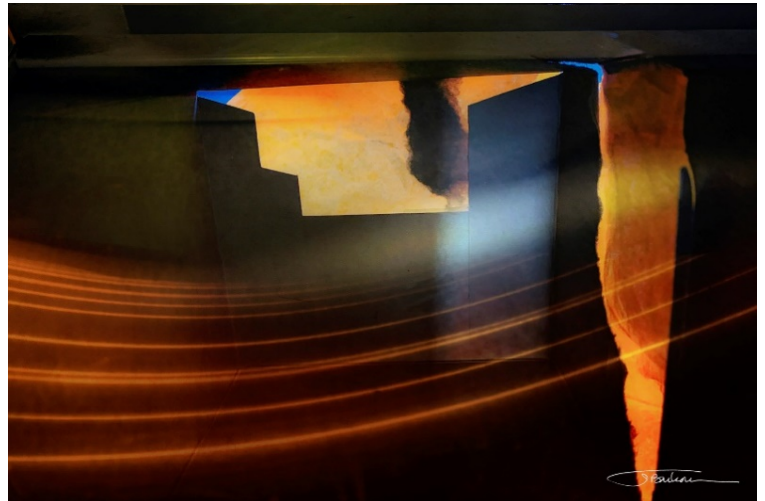
An experienced professional freelance photographer, Jim Barbour is a Grand Photos education class instructor and also leads the team that presents Club displays for Markets at Grand.

When did your interest in photography begin? In June of 1967 I saw the movie *Blow Up* about a photographer and thought, "I could do this." That was followed by my fraternity needing a photographer for the college newspaper, I raised my hand and said, "I've been doing photography for years." This was the beginning of my amateur career. I bought a camera and through trial and a lot of errors learned how to process negatives with chemicals and turn them into photographic prints. I majored in Economics and Art and upon graduation was without a job. I expected soon to be drafted into the military when a friend of the family hired me to take photos of the annual Denver Livestock Show. It didn't go well but I learned a lot about black and white photos. Then I met an exceptional medical photographer employed at Denver Children's Hospital who hired me as an assistant while I was in the army reserves and he taught me a lot. This led to

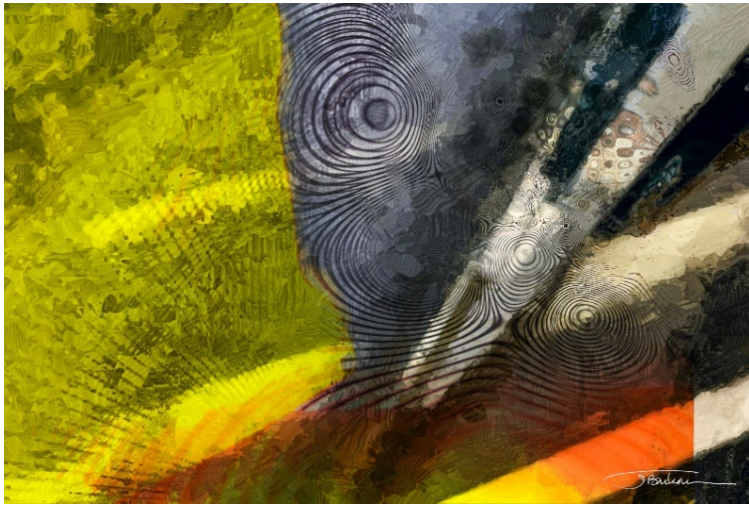
other opportunities in that field and later my own career in that field. Eventually I ventured out on my own and had a wonderful career doing freelance photography for Fortune 500 corporations in Minneapolis and also later in Denver.

How did you arrive at Grand? Some golfing friends of Vicki, my wife, invited us to spend a week and we loved it here. The following fall we bought a house, that was 4 years ago.

What do you most enjoy about Grand Photos? I admire the skill and creativity of the members; I was blown away. Being a career photographer, I thought there would not be much to see or learn, but there are really good photographers here doing many different and exciting things. It's also a great place to socialize and meet people.



How did you find yourself instructing classes and leading the team that presents Club displays for Markets at Grand? It's an evolution of the smartphone and I was intrigued with how powerful it is to do abstract photography and offered to instruct. On the Markets at Grand, one year I offered to help and then after the coordinator moved out of SCG I took on the task and worked with a team. I really enjoy these events; they are a great place to meet people.



What is it about photography that has maintained your interest over so many years? I've always been a people photographer so I think it's the connection with people. Through my freelance work I had access to board rooms, management meetings and CEO's and I felt connected to that group of people through my economics studies.

What are your favorite things to photograph? The bright colors of travel photography, windows, doors, etc. and abstract photography, which no one understands!

