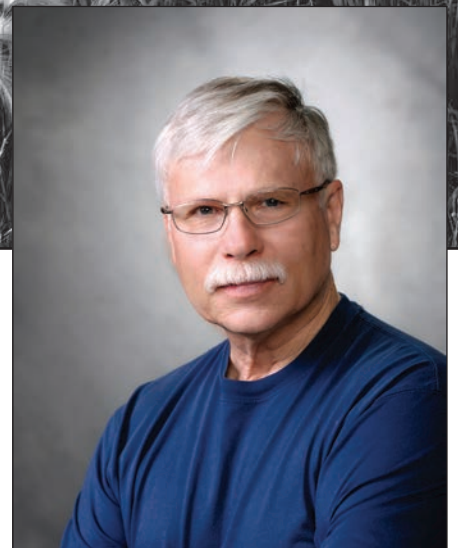


An Eclectic Retrospective: The Photography of Jim Turner

**Birger Sandzén
Memorial Gallery
Lindsborg, Kansas**

**January 22 through
March 12, 2023**



Luna Moth

It is a true honor for the Sandzén Gallery to showcase a retrospective exhibition of Jim Turner's photographs. He has been a staple in this community for most of his life and likely

photographed more people, events, and places - all from a multitude of angles - than anyone before him. When people want to know what Lindsborg and our region was like from the early-1970's to the present day, they need look no further than Jim's photographs.

Although often recognized for his commissions photographing weddings, senior portraits, and the like, Jim's focus goes well beyond that. He brings a true artist's eye to any subject he selects. His landscapes are breathtaking and his perspectives fascinating. He has made light his accomplice, traditional techniques his compatriots, and embraced digital when necessary to achieve a unique vision that give his photographs poignancy and valor. Jim brings it all to the table and I hope you enjoy this exceptional exhibition.

Ron Michael, Sandzén Gallery Director



Harvest Truck



Ewald Lofdahl

Biography

Jim is a lifelong resident of Lindsborg, Kansas. Attending the public schools and Bethany College in town, he was active in music and general messing around in the out-of-doors. His father, Jack Turner, who had been an U.S. Army Air Corps photographer in WW II, introduced him to photography at a young age. "I remember lots of times having to pose for pictures and then watch dad develop and print them in his makeshift darkroom located in our kitchen after the sun went down," recalls Jim. "I should have been more interested back then but for me it was a normal thing to be around photography and it held no allure for me." Jim enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1966 and set out to become a naval photographer while serving. "I wasn't sent to photo school right away so I obtained the training manual for photography, studied, and passed the exam for being rated as a photographer. I was then sent to school in Pen-

sacola, Florida, and from there to the Naval Photographic Center in Washington, D.C. I finished my tour aboard a ship out of Norfolk, Virginia." Jim never intended to be a photographer as a profession but the opportunity came along when Dale Hoag, a photographer in Lindsborg, wanted to sell his business. "I was kind of floundering around in life and still had no direction, so I purchased the business and 50 years later, here I am."



Don and Delbert

Artist Statement

Photography was a means to an end that developed into a love of image making in both the commercial and fine art fields. Photographing for one's self is like any other medium that we do to express ourselves or simply to find pleasure. Wikipedia defines fine art photography thus: "Fine-art photography is photography created in line with the vision of the photographer as artist, using photography as a medium for creative expression. The goal of fine-art photography is to



Coronado's Gold

express an idea, a message, or an emotion." Often none of this is part of a conscious effort on my part other than to capture a scene that attracts my attention. Most of those images are rarely seen by others and sometimes not even by me. As I developed as a photogra-

pher and realized that I did possess a certain degree of artistic ability, my craft became what I hope others will consider art.

Black and white film photography draws me much more than color. I do like the digital color medium and use it frequently, but black



Mark Lysell in the ÖI Stuga



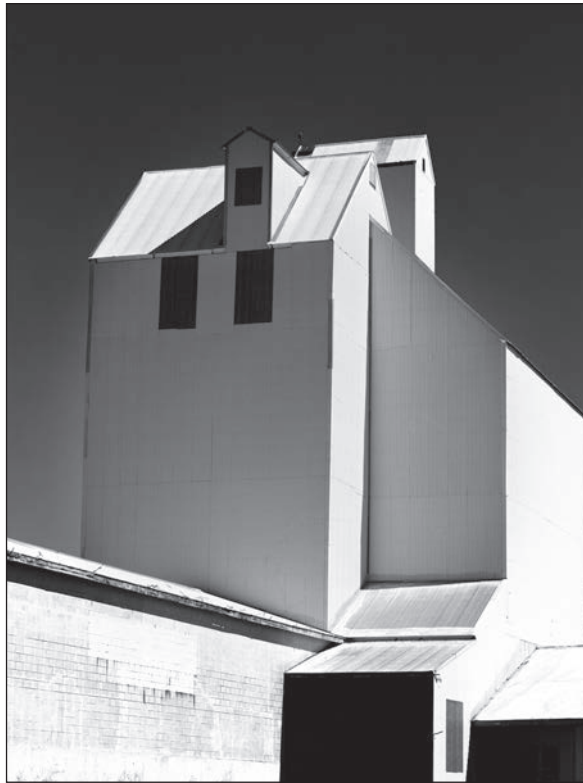
Jo Lillian



Snow on Yucca

and white traditional darkroom silver gelatin prints that are archivally processed and presented are much more satisfying and expressive for me.

My work has grown out of where I live. The plains have an immense beauty that most non-plains living people seem to rarely appreciate. Maybe the reason is that our beauty doesn't jump out at the viewer like a big mountain or a crashing waterfall. Plains beauty, beside our great storm clouds and wonderful skies during sunset and sunrise, is found in the microcosms of the natural world – grasses, trees, wind, and light. Especially light. Light makes our world different nearly every day. And manmade structures, that have stood on farms and in towns, are also every bit a part of plains beauty. Silos, weathered barns



Dwight, Kansas, Elevator #1



Bethany Church Christmas Tree

and pioneer houses, cattle, horses, and old trucks are our landscape. What is most impressive is the change in that natural landscape which comes from the progression of the sun throughout the year that changes our environment. My

favorite photograph that depicts accurately what I am trying to say is entitled *Falun Farm*

Elevator. Because of the light, because of the time of day, because of the time of year, and because I had been looking at it for some time, an image came about that is realistic and abstract at the same time.

I have been fortunate in my career and thankful for the support Lindsborg and the surrounding communities have given me. There certainly have been some interesting times.

Jim Turner



Photograph by Jim Richardson

Jim Turner with his 5 x 7 inch field (view) camera



Birger Sandzén
MEMORIAL GALLERY

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The Sandzén Gallery gratefully acknowledges the work Jim Turner put in to make this exhibition a reality (including all of the hours dedicated to photo shoots). Cover image: *Fuzzy Grasses*