

THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

NOVEMBER 2023



WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL NOVEMBER 2023



Hildegard of Bingen



Hard Time



How It Was Done

Community, voluntary or not, is what we're seeing in this month's Journal. We start with a voluntary community; Benedictine Nuns following in the steps of their founder, Hildegard of Bingen. Among their earthly vocations is winemaking.

The manufacture of brooms was the specialty of an involuntary community, the inmates of the Wyoming Territorial Prison. The broom making was accomplished with minimal tools and ended in the early twentieth century.

A Voluntary community has grown up around Hart Square, near Hickory, North Carolina where trades and crafts from the nineteenth century are still practiced.

Hildegard of Bingen



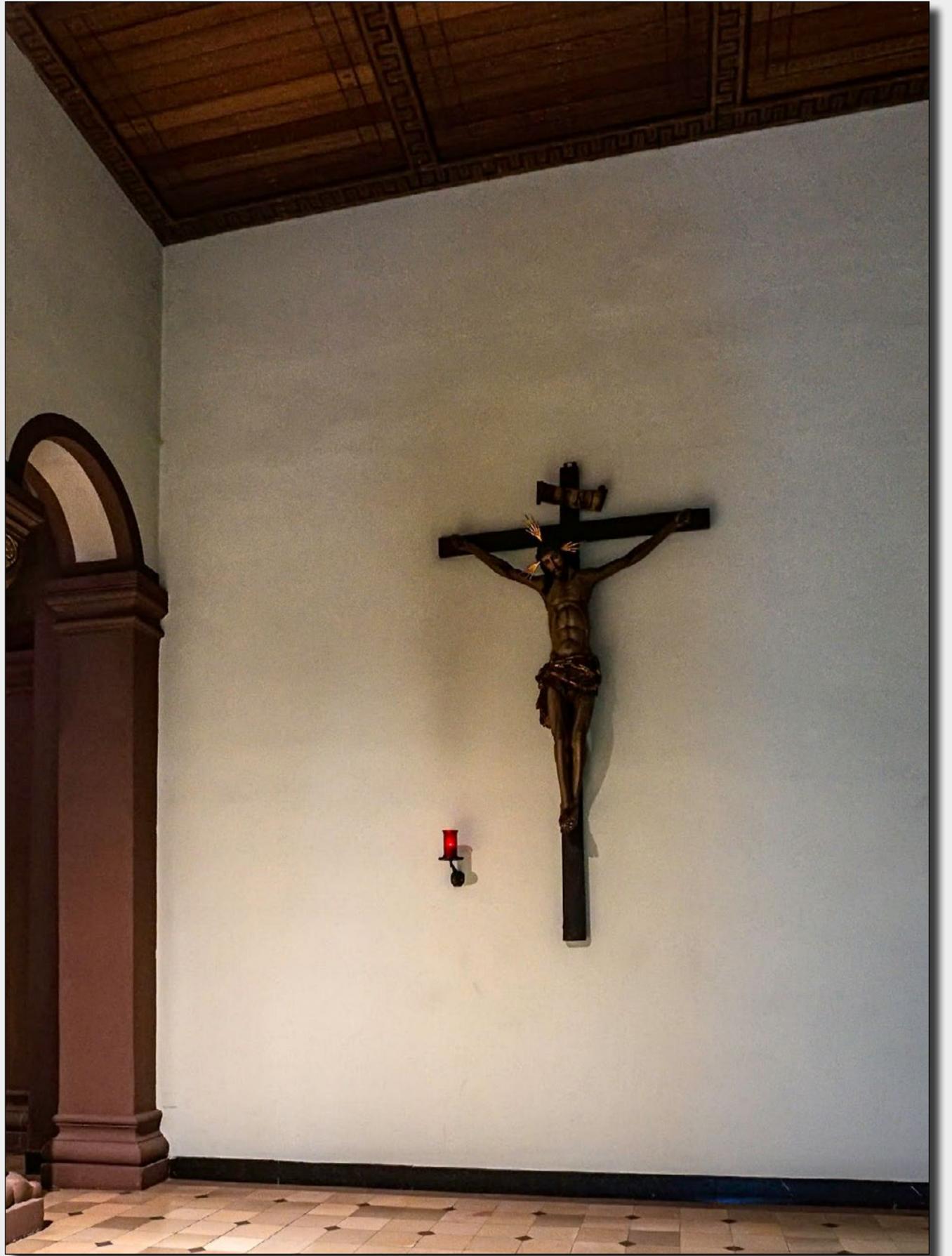
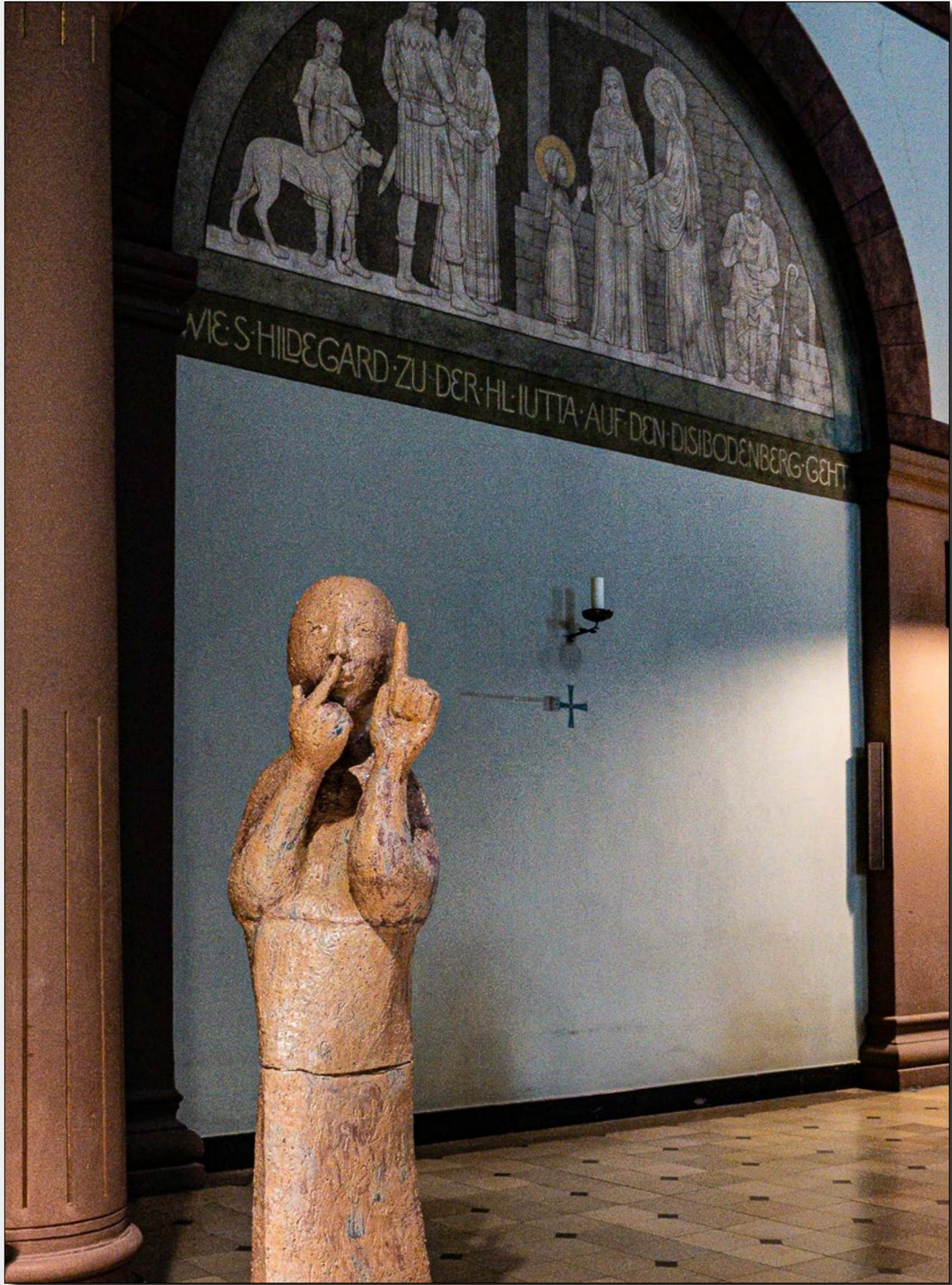
Hildegard of Bingen

A dedication to a life of prayer, healing and thought is the life that can continue well beyond the years we occupy this mortal coil. Inspiration to like minded members of a community will be paid forward to future generations ensuring the spiritual path will continue. The community honors these eternal truths and is still committed to living the holy life.













A Life in Murals





Single Image Project

We took a turn off a dirt road and were four wheelin' across some high prairie when we came upon this thing in the middle of nowhere. I was making some happy snaps of this structure when an ATV pulled up next to me. The ATV rider asked, "What do you think that contraption is?"

"Well," I said, "the sign says it's some sort of mobile weather station."

He responded, "That's what they want you to think. It's got to be something else, look at the way that antenna is pointed. Government's definitely spying on us for sure."

He gunned his ATV and headed out across the prairie.

Hard Time



Hard Time

In the late nineteenth century, all prison time was Hard Time. We marvel at how tough the pioneers had it just living in the Wyoming Territory, but the territorial prison was even worse. Some inmates were privileged enough to get a stint working in the prison broom factory making straw brooms. Here, they made brooms by hand. Over a hundred years later the equipment is still on site.

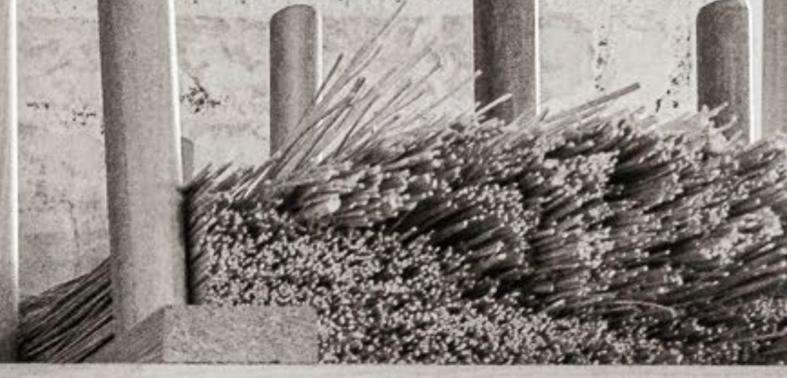
I photographed in silence, because the prisoners making the brooms were not allowed to talk while working.



$\frac{7}{8}$ BRM
CAPS

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CAPS









Six Word Project

Winter lasted almost all year long.



How It Was Done



How It Was Done

It was all done by hand. No electric, steam, or any other type of power beyond that which the craftsman had in his arms. It is very easy to forget the past. In fact, we forget just about anything that can't be accessed without an app on our smartphones. It is good to remember that without any of our taken for granted modern conveniences, life in the past was much slower and far more difficult than it is today.









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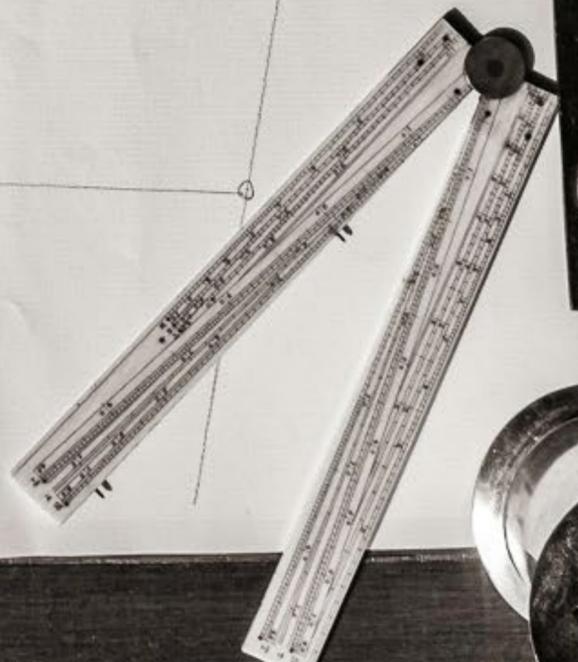
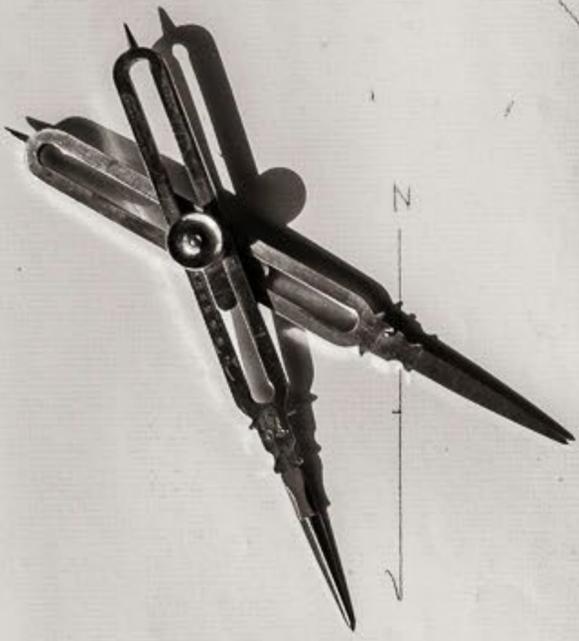
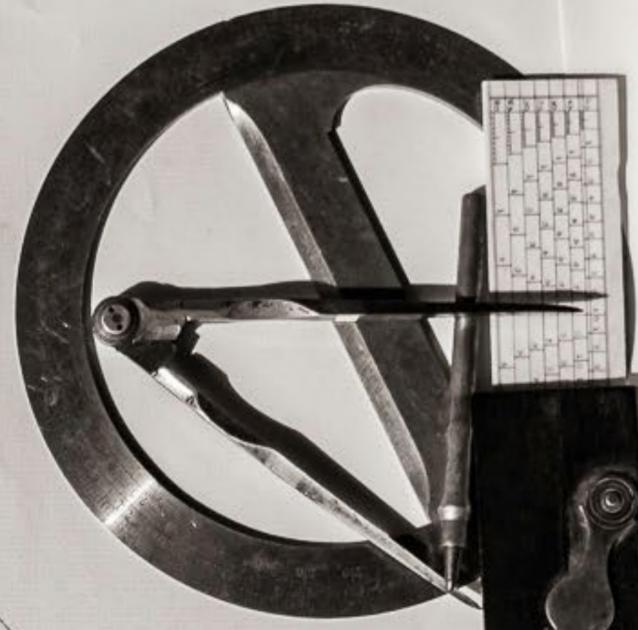
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Handwritten text on a piece of paper at the bottom left of the image, partially obscured by the drafting table's edge.





Postcards from the Creative Journey

February 14, 2021



Photographs With And Without Memories

There are some photographs you remember, there are others you do not remember. I like to think the photographs you don't remember are the best ones because they come from a place free of thought, planning and rationality. This is the place we all try to get to when we are out there in the world, camera in hand. These photographs just happen and when we find them in our Lightroom catalogs or contact sheets (remember those)? We are happy because we have come upon something of great value.

And before you ask, the photographs I don't remember are sometimes much better than the ones I do remember making.

A FEW CLOSING WORDS



Hildegard of Bingen

Hildegard of Bingen was a Benedictine abbess active as a writer, composer, philosopher, mystic, and visionary during the High Middle Ages. Her community, founded 1165 and dissolved in 1804, was restored, with new buildings, in 1904. Her work lives on at a contemporary abbey of Benedictine nuns near Rudesheim, Germany.

The CSPB that figures prominently in some photographs is an acronym for Crux Sancti Patris Benedicti, Latin for The Cross of [our] Holy Father Benedict, founder of the Benedictine order of Monks, Lay Brothers, and Nuns.



Hard Time

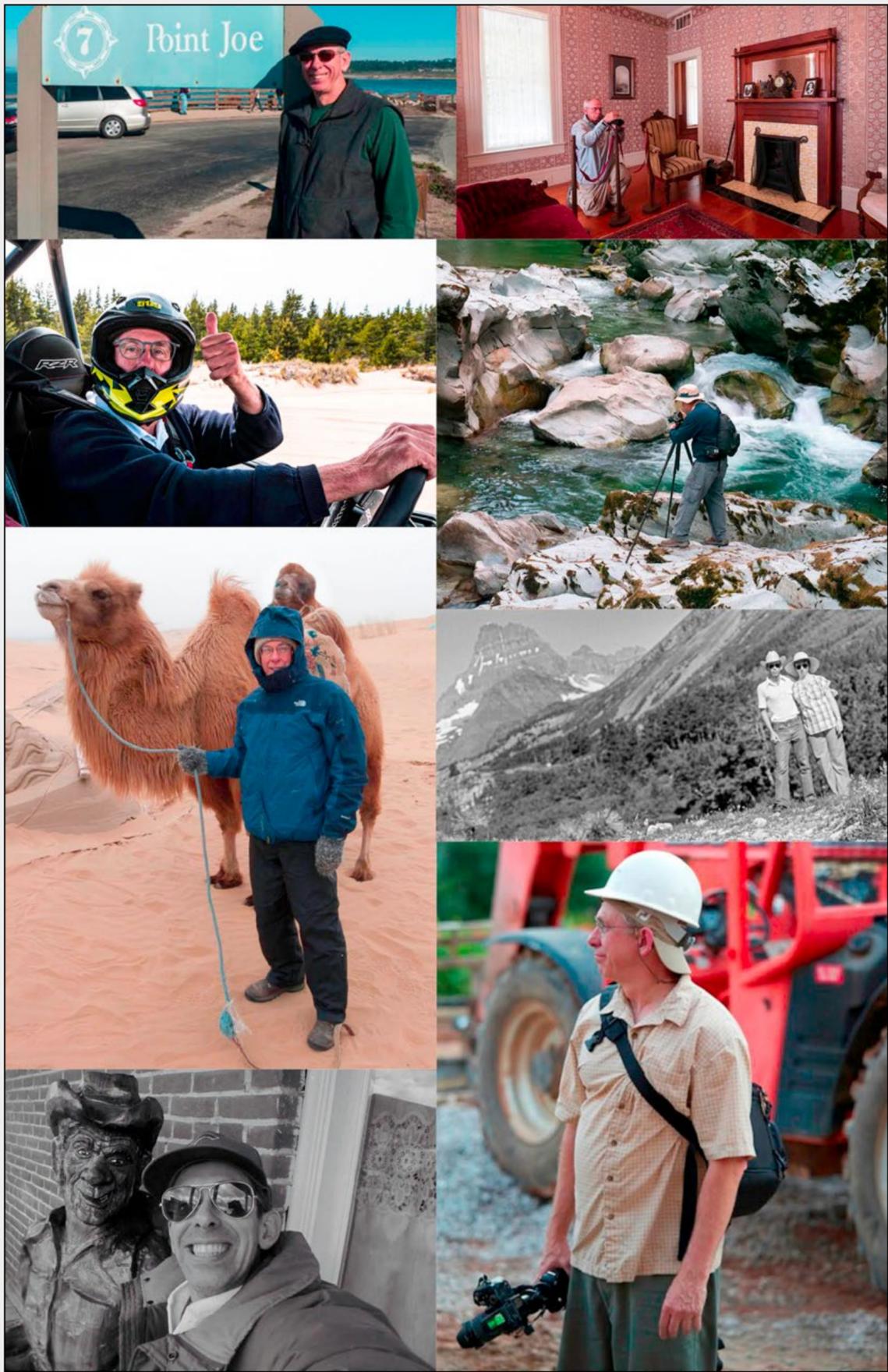
The Wyoming Territorial Prison was my “warm up” photography for the Spring photo safari in 2023. It was the first place my camera came out and I wandered around the historical site and came up with a project or two (this is one of the projects) I could share in an issue of The Lipka Journal. I was fascinated by the broom factory, an interesting way to keep convicts occupied during their sentence.

The most celebrated resident of the Prison was one Robert LeRoy Parker who served a two year sentence for horse theft. He was popularly known as Butch Cassidy.



How It Was Done

Hart Square is a collection of old buildings near Hickory, North Carolina. It is a positive way to preserve the history and ways of the eighteenth century in North Carolina. We take modern conveniences for granted and only by seeing how it was done can we appreciate how hard life was in the not too distant past.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred twenty juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and his images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop* Magazines.

His website www.joelipkaphoto.com has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

The Lipka Journal, November, 2023

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

Blog: https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/

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