A black and white photograph of a mountain landscape. The foreground is a large, flat area covered in snow and ice, with some dark rocks and debris scattered across it. In the middle ground, there are several large, dark, rocky slopes with patches of snow. The background shows more mountains, some of which are partially obscured by mist or clouds. The overall scene is desolate and cold.

THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

MAY 2024

WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL MAY 2024



Bird in Hand



State of Being



Written on the Wall

It's tough to put a label on any of the subjects of the image suites in this month's Journal. I really like art that doesn't seem to fit into a nice, neat box, but samples many genres and makes itself special. Are decoys art, craft or hunting kit? Is water a liquid, solid or vapor, but what about if it's all three simultaneously? How about writing on a wall? Communication for sure, but what is being communicated? So just what do we have in this month's Journal? You get to decide.

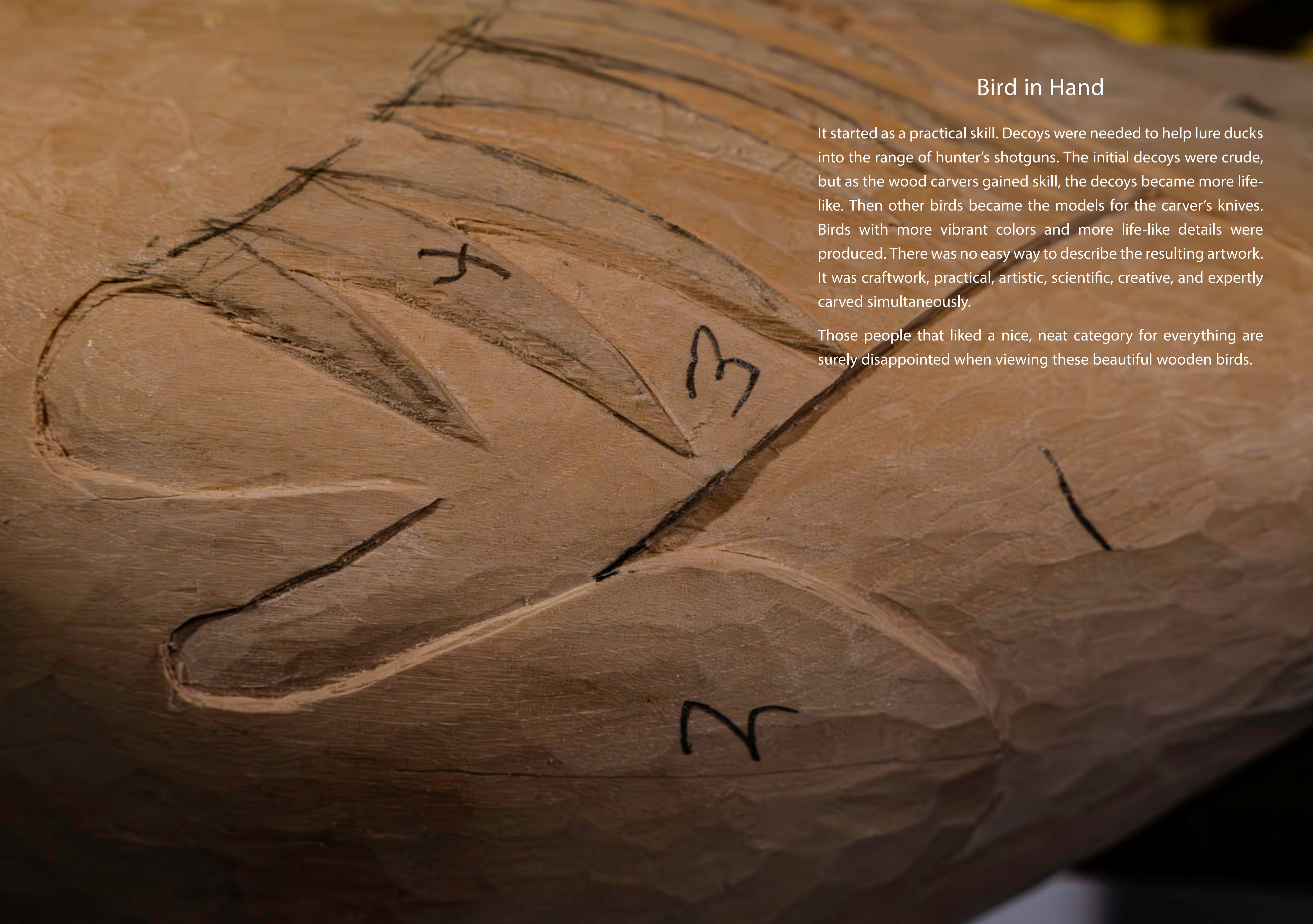
Bird in Hand



Bird in Hand

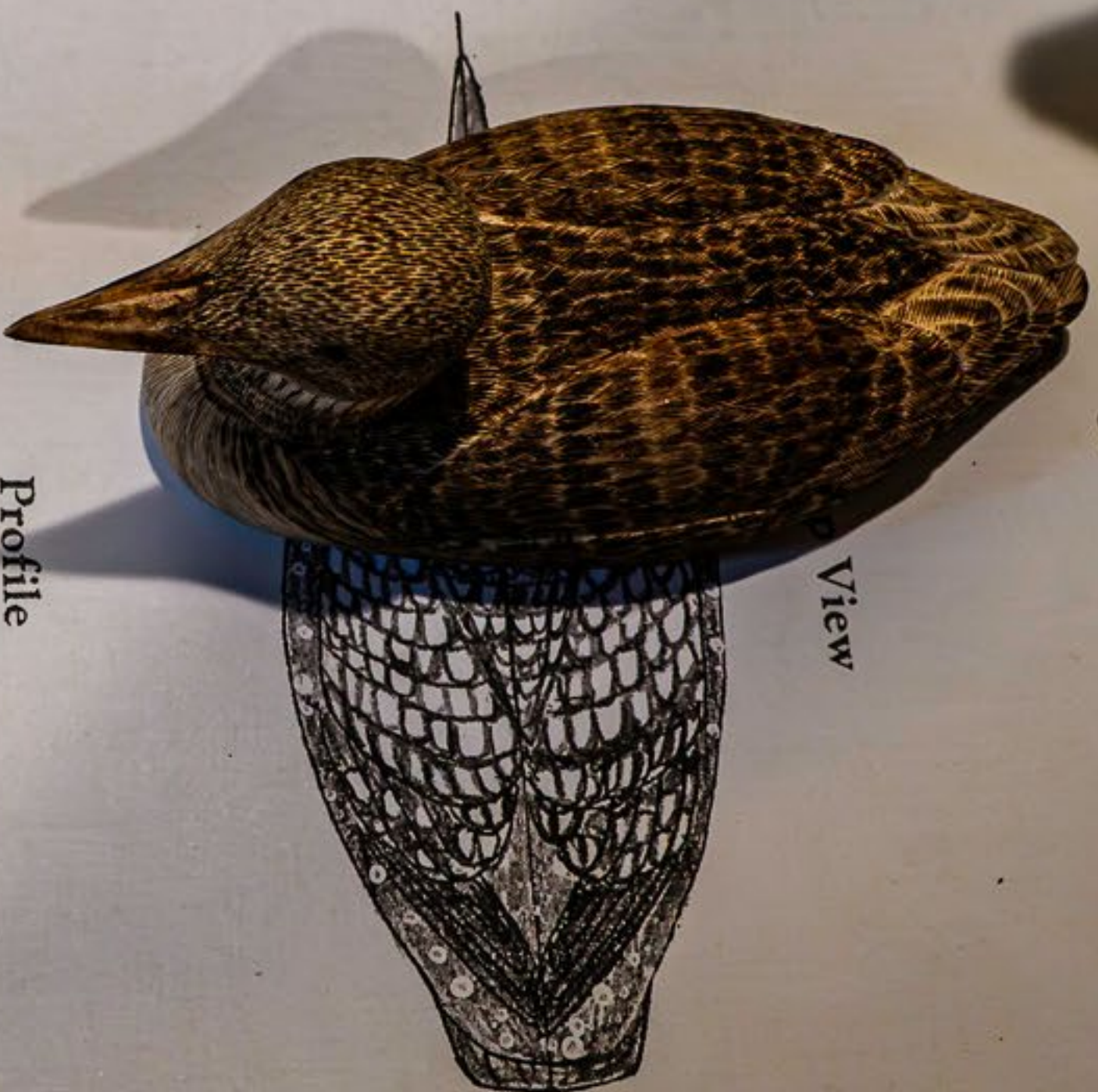
It started as a practical skill. Decoys were needed to help lure ducks into the range of hunter's shotguns. The initial decoys were crude, but as the wood carvers gained skill, the decoys became more life-like. Then other birds became the models for the carver's knives. Birds with more vibrant colors and more life-like details were produced. There was no easy way to describe the resulting artwork. It was craftwork, practical, artistic, scientific, creative, and expertly carved simultaneously.

Those people that liked a nice, neat category for everything are surely disappointed when viewing these beautiful wooden birds.





Eye: 3/32" nail set
Red iris



Loon
Gaid immer

View

Profile



Wendell Gilley Museum
Main Street & Herrick Road
P.O. Box 254
Southwest Harbor, Maine 04679

Pattern by Steve Vallean



Loon
Gavil immer

BYRON

RADII

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INDUAL S

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Stanley Oliver Gerson
 Savage Study Collection
 Species: Delted Kingfisher
 Salvaged in: Zanesville, OH, OH
 Date: 1991

Delted Kingfisher
 Hit in down at
 Mrs. Gerson's home

Gesso











A Mostly True Story

Tom secretly felt bad for his friend, Larry the metal sculptor. Tom's inventory of pots and jugs took up relatively little room and he had the space to house his wares as he prepared for the summer arts and crafts fairs. Larry's inventory of large, metal sculptures already filled his studio, his barn, and the back yard.

State of Being



State of Being

Physics tells us that matter can exist in separate states. In the State of Wyoming, on top of the Snowy Range, we have multiple states of water existing simultaneously. Water exists as solid, liquid and vapor simultaneously on a spring day. We can walk on the snow and ice; we can see the water and walk through the water vapor of clouds. We move freely between the three states of water in equilibrium. As humans, we are restricted to one physical state at one time.





















Barely a Whisper of the Truth.

And the truck would not start.



火烟禁

Written on the Wall

連年才余喜發財

言和如心事順



Written on the Wall

Leon, a pipefitter in a chemical plant, told me that important information was written on the wall so all would be able to see the important information and use it in our jobs. I've always remembered that advice and found that writing on the walls is that combination of information that is advertising, warning, self-expression, and well, graffiti. It's always interesting to see what manner, or art, advertising, and messages are left on walls.





HOT

CAUTION

↓
DEMO
HOLE!!
DOOR
OPENING
DEMO 4-4 5/8
X 7-4 1/2
SAVE

NO HOLE

STAYED
DEMO
DOOR

SAVE
X



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SAN JUAN ISLANDS

LEGION
BRANCH 155



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Rats

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Postcards from the Creative Journey

May 2, 2021

Getting Back in Shape

That would be photograph shape, as in getting ready to make some images. In about a month, I'm heading out for a Spring photo safari with Brooks Jensen. We're heading back to the southern Oregon Coast for two weeks of photography and creating art. An event of such cosmic proportions cannot be entered into without some major preparations.

I really need to get my head wrapped around creating photographs, because for the past seven or eight months I have been busy creating art (as in the Journal) with very little (if any) effort placed in actually being "out there" creating images with my camera. As with any skill, facility comes with practice, and I have not been practicing. The weather is better and the days are longer, so it's time to put a camera in my hands and get out there to create images.

It's time to remember how to see like a camera.



A FEW CLOSING WORDS



Bird in Hand

These beautiful carved birds occupy a “kind of” classification. They’re kind of art, kind of craft, kind of folksy, kind of hunting kit but they are all wonderful. I love art that refuses to be put into a nice neat box. Everyone goes to Acadia National Park for the scenery, but the bird carvers truly made the trip worthwhile.



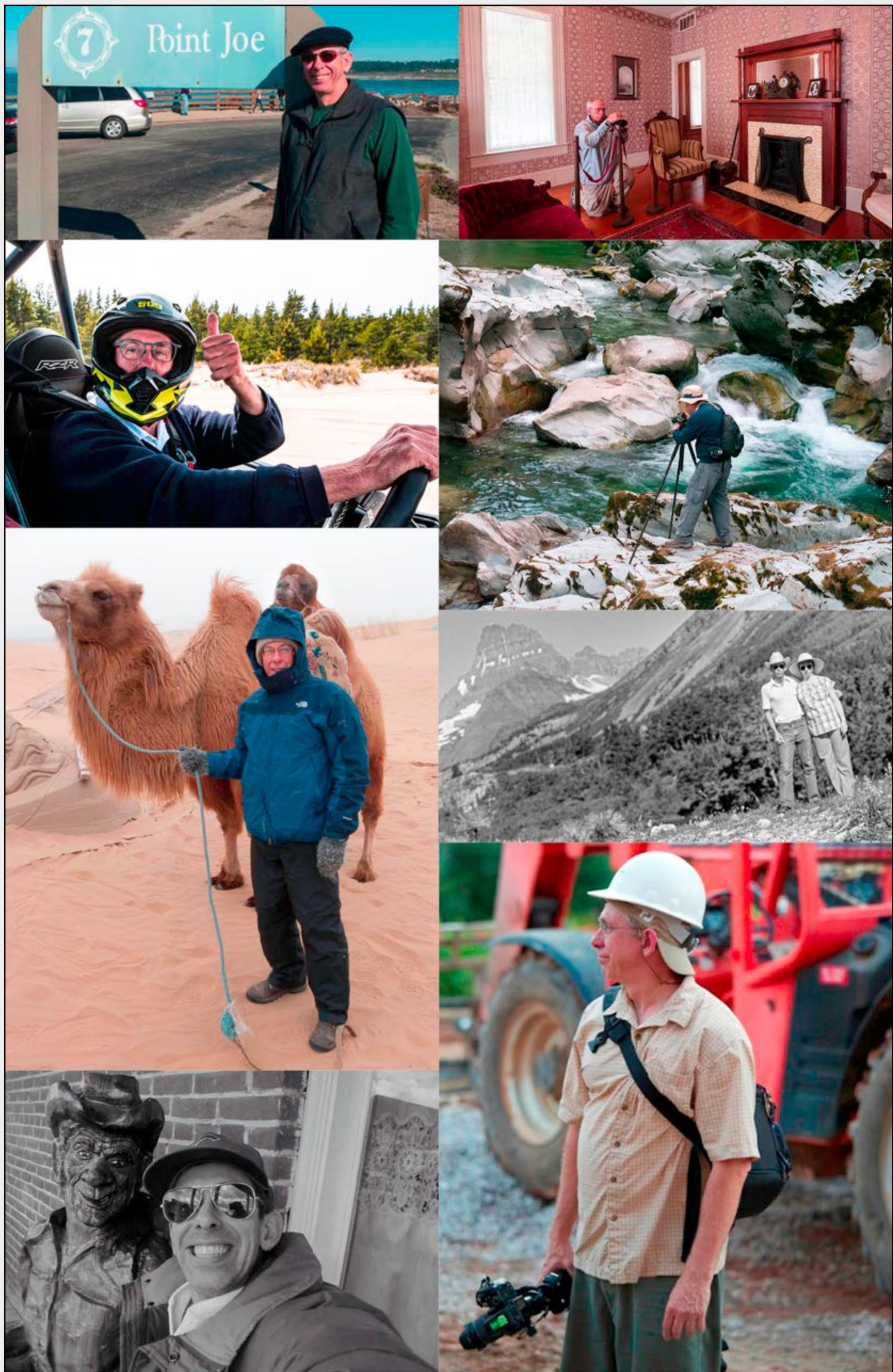
State of Being

We drove west out of Laramie and looped down through Colorado. We had a choice on how to get back to Laramie and decided to take “Scenic Route” 130 through the Snowy Range because it had just been opened after Winter. It was one of the best decisions made during the 2023 Spring Photo Safari. The primary subject of these photos is water in the landscape. But the water is in multiple state simultaneously. Not something you see all the time.



Written on the Wall

Murals can take different forms, art, advertisement, graffiti and sometimes instructions or warnings to those nearby. This project took place over forty some years of photography. I didn’t really know I had a project, but I noticed a few images and collected them. Then another, then another and I came up with a project. The only one I’m missing is a “Mail Pouch Barn” that we used to see in rural Ohio when we drove to Grandma’s house



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, May, 2024

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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