



# The Tail Trail Tribune

News from Matt & Odee

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Oct. - Nov. 2022

## WHAT WE ARE UP TO & MORE!



A vertical version of this photograph had the most like of any other photograph on my Facebook photography page. It gathered tens of thousands likes.

Yellowstone Falls, how I remember looking at a photograph of this waterfall in National Geographic when I was a young teen and longing to be there in person. Traveling is in my blood and I think it always has been. At that time the only traveling I had done was in the states I lived in or bordering ones. I managed to do more as I became an adult but the last decade is when I was able to have my biggest adventures which a lot of you have followed. This has allowed me to visit and photograph places I had no idea I would ever see. Oh I finally made it to Yellowstone National Park in 2016, during the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, the park celebrated its 150th anniversary in March 2022.

The last three years have been a challenge for all of us. For me it was the pandemic along with a new health concern and treatments, the loss of Jackson, my service dog, and multiple mechanical problems with the truck. Then a new dog that needed (and still is getting) a lot of training. I got through the treatments and finally I am beginning to feel like my old self a year and a half later. I am a little easier to tire. I just pace myself as I have learned to over the last decade or so.

Odee and I made a couple of camping trips in 2020 and '21. This year we have done more training and have vastly improved our camping experience. I have reduced

the burden of all the truck repairs and expenses since then and can now start thinking about doing some moderate traveling soon. There are still sights in the Pacific Northwest and surrounding areas I want to see and Odee is eager for more travel adventures. Some things I'm considering are returning to Washington next year and there is one national monument in Oregon we haven't been to plus plenty of other wonderful sights to see.

At this time in my life I would like to up my camping experience a little. Cancer treatments have taken their toll on me and with some better equipment I could cut the motel room costs I sometimes have during inclement weather. Make no mistake camping in the cap on the truck bed has been a great improvement over sleeping in a tent on the ground. I should know I did (which? sleep on the ground or in the cap?) for a five-month trip in 2017. But I would like a little more comfort and to be able to sit up when waiting out a storm or getting out of the cold. Spending an inclement 24 hours in the back of the truck is possible; I did it in Arizona on a trip but it wasn't the most fun experience. So I am saving up for a slide-in pop-up camper to go on the back of the truck. I want to have more mobility and don't want to pull a trailer. But until then we will get out more and share what we see.

Well that is a little catch up, we have more in the newsletter; some photography tips, Odee's column, and the holiday season is coming so I have some ideas for gifts on pages two and four.

**This is an example of the style of camper I am talking about. Photo from Four Wheel Campers, Woodland, California. <https://four-wheelcampers.com/>**



# The Holidays are Coming Soon - What we have available



## Wall Art

You can decorate your home with my museum quality wall art from fully matted and framed prints to canvases and in-between. I offer a range of sizes and different products to adorn your walls.

Click below for my wall art:

<https://tinyurl.com/MattsWallArt>

We don't have all our products shown here in our newsletter. We also offer throw pillows, duvet covers, tapestries, towels, yoga mats, notebooks, zip pouches, fleece blankets, shower curtains, bath and beach towels.

**The link to my sales page on my website:**

<https://5eul.short.gy/MatthewsSalesPage>

**The link to my sales page on Fine Art America:**

<https://fineartamerica.com/profiles/matthew-irvin>



## Greeting Cards

Greeting cards are 5x7 inches using 100lb cardstock. Each card is coated with a UV protectant. The inside of the card can be personalized with your own message up to 500 characters. Box sets come with envelopes as well as individual cards. Click here to view my greeting cards: <https://tinyurl.com/MattsGCards>



## Apparel

We have T-shirts, sweatshirts and other apparel of all sizes in Women's, Men's, and children's choices

Click below to see selections:

<https://tinyurl.com/MattsApparel>



## Tapestries

My lightweight microfiber tapestries come in three sizes and have hemmed edges for secure hanging with nails or thumbtacks.

Click here for my tapestries:

<https://tinyurl.com/MattsTapestries>



## High Quality Jigsaw Puzzles

In 1000 & 500 piece boxed sets. Scenes from Oregon, North Carolina, and all over the US plus some international locations.

Click below:

<https://tinyurl.com/MattsPuzzles>



## iPhone & Galaxy Cases

We have cases for both iPhone and Galaxy in standard and ruff use models.

**Click here for iPhone:** <https://tinyurl.com/MattsiPhoneCases>

**Click here for Galaxy:** <https://tinyurl.com/MattsGalaxy>



### Tote Bags

We offer totes in three different sizes and are made from a soft durable ploy-poplin fabric. Click below to see selections: <https://tinyurl.com/MattsTotes>



### Throw Pillows

Throw pillows come in five square sizes from 14x14" to 26 x 26" or 20 x 14". Made from 100% spun polyester poplin fabric they are printed on both sides and zippered. You can buy these with or without inserts. <https://tinyurl.com/MattsThrowPillows>



### Coffee/Tea Mugs

These ceramic mugs come in 11 oz and 15oz sizes and are microwave and dishwasher safe. Click here for Matt's Mugs: <https://tinyurl.com/MattsMugs>



### Christmas & Holiday ornaments

These are available in six different shapes. These are mounted on wood with hangers included. There is a magnet on the back so you can use them on your refrigerator. To view these quality ornaments click below: <https://tinyurl.com/MattsOrnaments>

## Photo of the Month



### Wizard Island Framed

*A late summer scene at Crater Lake National Park*

Crater Lake is the deepest lake in America and Wizard Island is one of three in the crater. There is no inflow or outflow from the lake. The level is maintained by precipitation, evaporation, and seepage.

# Matt's Quick Photo Tips

## Your background is important

When photographing people or some subjects, an extremely busy background can be distracting. Look out for trees and other objects springing out of people's heads. Carefully moving your subject around can eliminate some of these. Also when photographing someone you may want to use a longer focal length lens and wider aperture setting to throw the background out of focus.

## What to post (or print) or not

With social media today it is easy to post every photograph you shoot of a scene. Editing means more that editing individual photographs, edit your scene down to the best shot of the scene, maybe two. You don't need to post every one even though all may be equally beautiful. A good photographer edits to what is the best. Plus all photographers do have some mundane photographs. You want to show off your best through quality, not quantity. Think of what you want

to post what you would have printed in a portfolio to show to a possible client.



It's best to choose the best shot of your scene instead of posting multiples.

A rule is a rule except when it isn't. In the next newsletter we will talk about the rule of thirds.

*If you have any photography questions be sure to send them in. I'll be glad to answer, or if I don't know I will do my best to find out. Our email is:*

*[photodogjackson@carolina.rr.com](mailto:photodogjackson@carolina.rr.com).*



## From Odee's Point of View

"It's All in a Name"

Woof, some people wonder how I got my name. As many of you know I was a shelter dog and Matt met me when I was 8 months old. I had been at the shelter for a month because they were treating me for my cough before putting me up for adoption. Matt was one of the first persons to visit with me. I was standoffish to start with and let him know I was. Let's just say my home life had not been good and the shelter was scary.

When Matt picked me up the day after he visited I was so happy to have a new person in my life. My original name was Hess but neither of us liked it. Matt thought and thought and right as we were pulling in to my new doctor's parking lot he came up with Odee. Now a lot of people think I am named after the dog in the comic strip, but mine is spelled different. My name is Odee which is shortened from Oregon Dog, because I am Matt's first Oregon Dog!

*If you have any questions for Odee feel free to write him. Our email is [photodogjackson@carolina.rr.com](mailto:photodogjackson@carolina.rr.com).*

## A Little More!

*We have stock photographs available for purchase also!*

For stock photography

My iStock portfolio:

[www.istockphoto.com/portfolio/matthewirvin](http://www.istockphoto.com/portfolio/matthewirvin)

**Also don't forget Odee's blog at:**

[www.photodogjackson.com](http://www.photodogjackson.com)

**And our YouTube channel:**

[www.youtube.com/photodogjackson](http://www.youtube.com/photodogjackson)

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