



Mental meandering by SOLAR historian..... vol. 16 September 2018

Most every month we will dig into our archives and ponder on the past and present minutia of our club.....

I hope in the future to also be a bit of a document of record and comment on current event and perhaps give a historical context.

Welcome to my mad mad world of run on sentences and mental meandering

Time Well Spent

We all look at things we own and remember well when we got it, who we were with or that person it came from. I have received a cache of our clubs new letters, the SOLAR Ray. I have also borrowed a scanner and will attempt to scan in and format the ones not currently available on line at <http://solaroutdoors.com/solarray.html> , those currently are the years 2010-2013 and 2015 and 2016.

I don't know if folks read them and don't remember hearing "I read it in the Ray" for a long time but I do think looking at past trips and articles from fellow adventures, campers, outdoor enthusiasts is time well spent. The inspirational factor and getting to know what the club is about in an undeniable plus only surpassed by actually doing things with other SOLAR members.

Please take a bit of time and look at what is currently available it will surely be more colorful the ones that I hope will be coming since they are of the digital age and have multitudes of images.....like the articles, funny, inspiring and well worth the time spent.

Archiving Project

If you have read this far you know have past editions of the SOLAR Ray and a scanner lent by a Steering Committee member for the express effort of archiving the past for the future. I expect that I will learn where our clubs files are stored, will have to work with the communication chairperson to get them connected to the soon to be coming, exciting and fabulous, brand new blogosphere thingy.....

I was asked WHY digitize.....simply, digital is easier to store, disseminate and review.....AND.....I think it's worth it....

That being typed, this project will take some doing, if we have anyone out there with experience we have to get the scanner set up and start the process. I hope you think it is worth it too. Perhaps we could parse it out to get it done.

Next month I will dedicate to scanning and archiving, will not have a Past Tents then, look for the next mental meandering by SOLAR historian..... vol. 17 at the end of November 2018

The Lost Men

I have started reading a book on essentially Ernest Shackleton's support party, with a short history of contest and personality, the story progresses to the story of a team that was to lay provisions for the main party which was attempting the first crossing of Antarctica. I find that many details of financing, getting the correct team and the right mindset as well as the reason for the attempt are all equally important in telling the tale and insightful for our less ambitious endeavors. Much has been written about Shackleton and he is a heroic figure but I have found that in this tale he is not lionized and put on a pedestal but with his shortcomings and that force of environment all rose to meet the necessity of survival. The support team knew that they were the only means of survival and that one dynamic reason drove men beyond their own survival, beyond to the survival of others. I have yet to finish this story but being drawn from journals and personal histories the author Kelly Tyler-Lewis gives us more to draw on than just accomplishing the goal, but being better, not giving in, surviving for others. As a modern reader this also gives insight to the changes in planning, gear, travel, transport, food and scope of what is called the "last odyssey of the heroic age of Antarctic exploration".....I recommend it.....published in 2007, it is probably at your local library to lend....

Bandanas

SOLAR now has a limited run of bandanas, this image does not do it justice, real life is better.....it is expected that they will go on sale and are red, light blue, light green and yellow. To bolster the multimedia future and present we live in, it is hoped that folks will travel with their bandanas and take photos and post the images with the club. You may have seen the old English D from the Detroit Tigers, pictured all around the world in local papers or online.....I hope we can do the same with our SOLAR "flag".....we will also grant some high vis yellow and green ones to the equipment coordinator and burden them with suggesting they get checked out to go on an adventure with you.....look for it soon at a SOLAR meeting near you.....prices have not yet been set....



Take a picture with your bandana on an adventure, write a comment, share it with the club



Take a picture with your bandana on an adventure, write a comment, post it with the club



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