

# Past Tents

Mental meandering by SOLAR historian

We will dig into our archives and ponder on the past and present minutia of our club.....

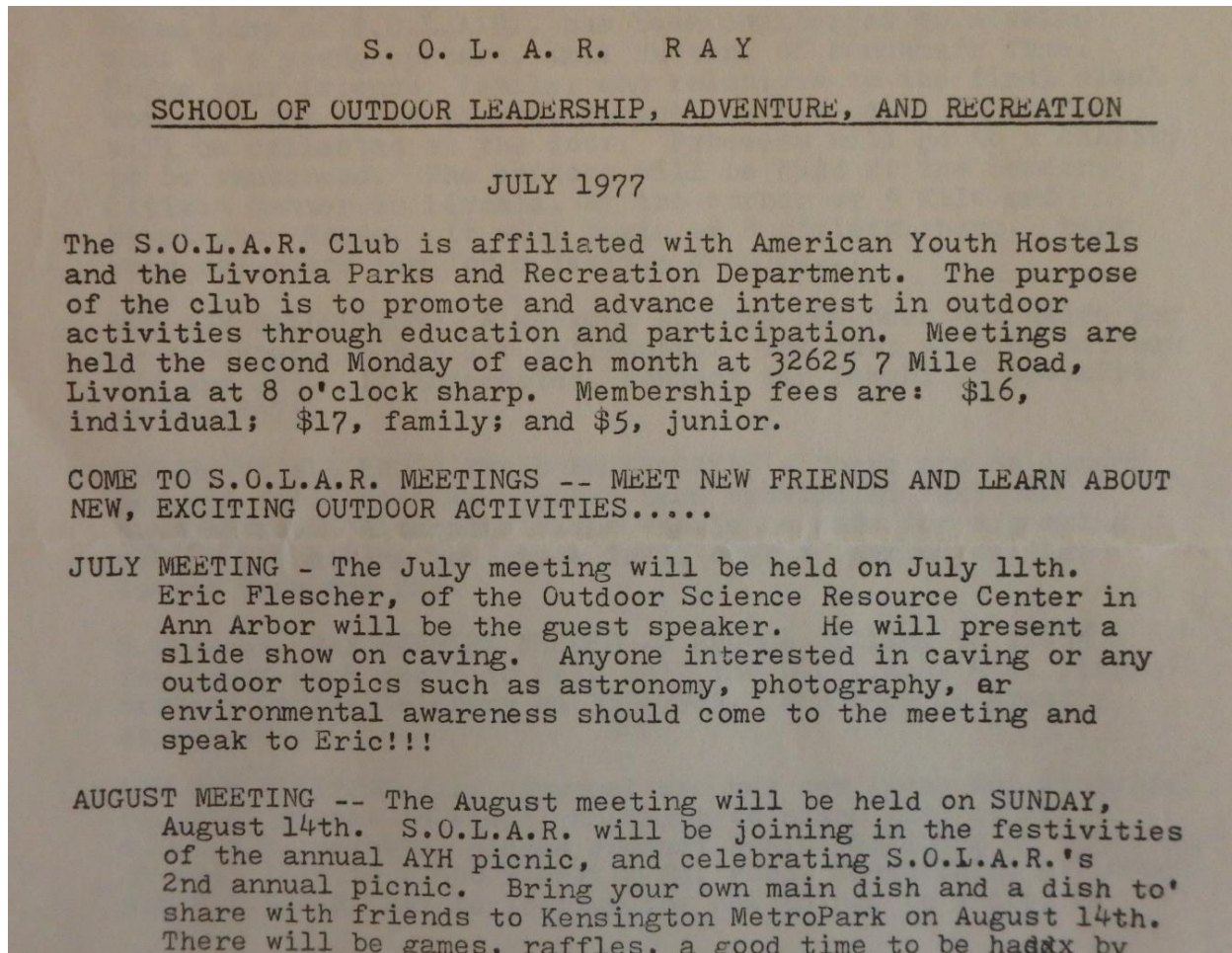
Welcome to Mike's mad mad world of run on sentences and mental meandering ..... vol. 2

## Affiliates

Our club works with the community as we strive to build common goal of outdoor interests to the larger community, here are some past and present groups we have worked with.

S.O.L.A.R. RAY 1977, opening line states "the SOLAR Club in affiliated with the **American Youth Hostels** and **Livonia Parks and Recreation Department**" giving time, location and membership fees (16 \$ for individual which includes membership in AYH.)

We were celebrating our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual picnic. We also have a 1936 – 1976 history of AYH in Detroit, interesting and insightful on the humble beginnings which SOLAR grew out of.



We also worked with the Outdoor Resource Center in Ann Arbor which helped giving talks and advice on caving, astronomy, photography and environmental awareness.

In 1976, fourteen people attended a S.O.L.A.R. meeting in the 4-H office, I also found that the 4-H Youth Programs were a Cooperative Extension Service of Michigan State University (so by extension SOLAR was affiliated with MSU too). S.O.L.A.R. helped with a 4-H course Enjoying the Outdoors.

# ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS ?

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S.O.L.A.R. PROGRAM  
SHOW YOU HOW!!!**

**CLASSES STARTING IN:**

- **BACKPACKING**
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- **ROCK CLIMBING**
- **SURVIVAL IN  
THE WILDERNESS**

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More recently we have joined other hiking groups through Meet Up and Heavner Canoe and their program "No child left inside" as well as others.

## **Class Material and Trips**

This is a retrospective on some of the class titles of the past. We can look at this partial list as inspiration to the future, as member lead and club supported, these subjects and activities still have a lot of sole left to get out and explore on.....

-Wilderness Transportation: essentially hiking and concerns, basic equipment and orienteering, food and techniques as well as light weight camping skills (those have radically changed since the 1970's but that was the start.)

-Rock Climbing: rappelling, belaying and climbing techniques, equipment, usage and safety

-Agawa Canyon / Bruce Trail : two trips exploring Ontario canyon / peninsulas backpacking on long weekends

-Hot Air Ballooning:

-Family Outing: Hudson Mills, camp, fish, canoe.

-Tubing Trip: Smokey Mountains, Little River

-Caving:

-Snow Shoeing:

-Kayaking:

-Bicycle touring:

-Cross Country Skiing:

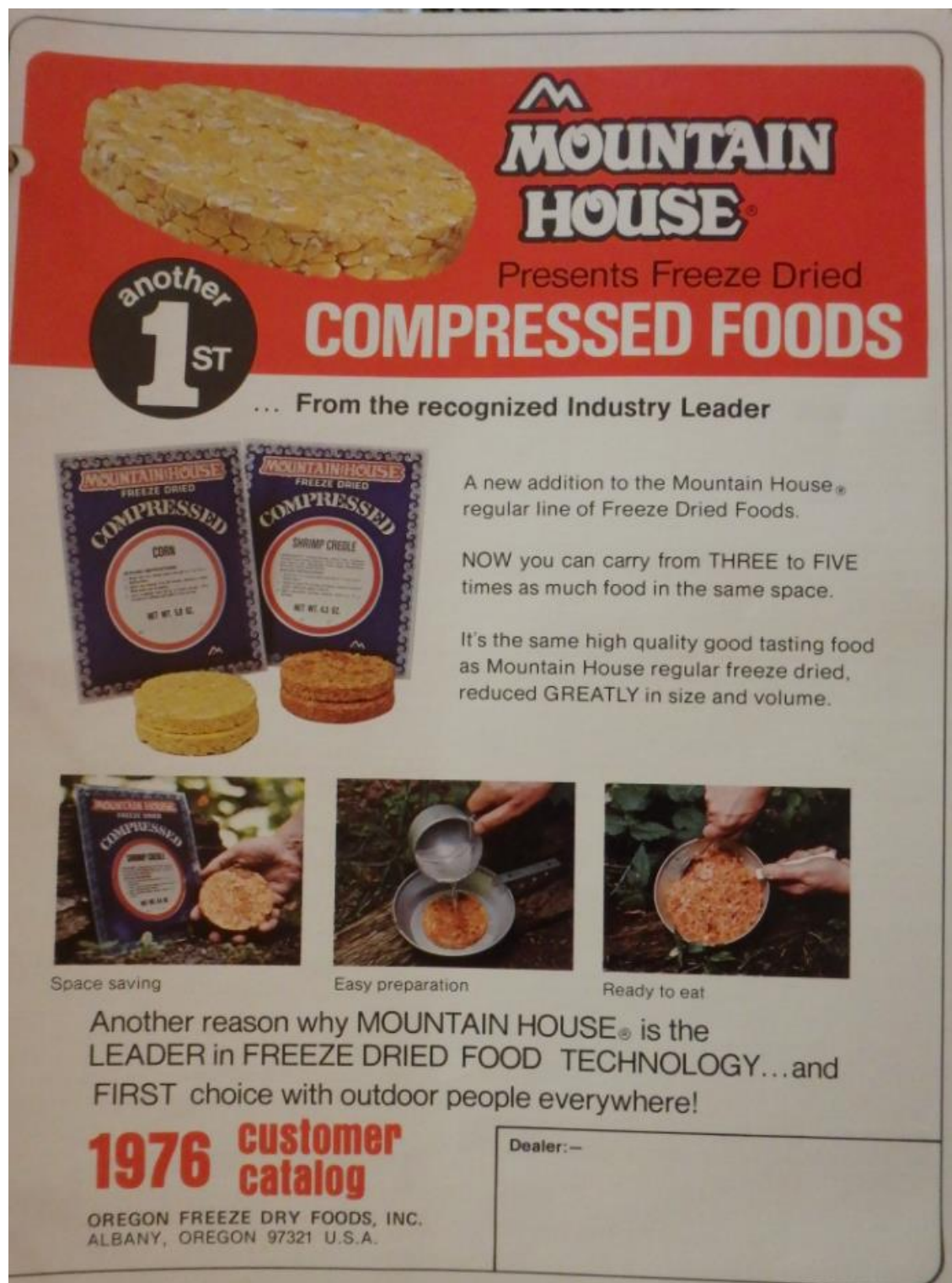
**Those were the days / These are the days**



Yes we had less money then, less equipment too, typed out on an old list there are five items with repeats for climbing equipment and tents but you could take them out for the weekend for under ten bucks. Our current equipment cave in a local storage facility has hundreds of items from water filters to stoves, sleeping bags to back packs, snow shoes to lanterns and more. Yes we still have tents.

SOLAR still helps you get out there and though it cost more to reserve and use an ultralight tent or test out some cool item perhaps Phil (our current equipment guru) could find you a heavier tent for car camping but not at 1979 prices.....

And if you still long for the good old days I ran across a Mountain House COMPRESSED FOODS advertisement, mmmmm yummy.



The advertisement features a large image of a corn cake at the top left. To its right is the Mountain House logo, which consists of a stylized 'M' above the words 'MOUNTAIN HOUSE' in a bold, blocky font. Below the logo, the text 'Presents Freeze Dried' is written in a smaller font, followed by 'COMPRESSED FOODS' in large, bold, white letters on a red background. A circular badge on the left side of the top section contains the text 'another 1<sup>ST</sup>'. Below this, the text '... From the recognized Industry Leader' is written. The middle section shows two packages of Mountain House Compressed Foods: one for 'CORN' and one for 'SHRIMP CREOLE'. Below the packages are two stacks of the compressed food cakes. To the right of the packages, there is a block of text: 'A new addition to the Mountain House® regular line of Freeze Dried Foods. NOW you can carry from THREE to FIVE times as much food in the same space. It's the same high quality good tasting food as Mountain House regular freeze dried, reduced GREATLY in size and volume.' The bottom section contains three small images: the first shows a hand holding a corn cake next to a package, labeled 'Space saving'; the second shows a hand pouring water into a pan with a corn cake, labeled 'Easy preparation'; the third shows a hand holding a pan with a corn cake, labeled 'Ready to eat'. Below these images, the text reads: 'Another reason why MOUNTAIN HOUSE® is the LEADER in FREEZE DRIED FOOD TECHNOLOGY...and FIRST choice with outdoor people everywhere!'. At the bottom left, it says '1976 customer catalog' in large, bold, red letters, followed by 'OREGON FREEZE DRY FOODS, INC. ALBANY, OREGON 97321 U.S.A.' in smaller black letters. On the bottom right, there is a box labeled 'Dealer:—'.

**another 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**MOUNTAIN HOUSE**  
Presents Freeze Dried  
**COMPRESSED FOODS**

... From the recognized Industry Leader

A new addition to the Mountain House® regular line of Freeze Dried Foods.

NOW you can carry from THREE to FIVE times as much food in the same space.

It's the same high quality good tasting food as Mountain House regular freeze dried, reduced GREATLY in size and volume.

Space saving

Easy preparation

Ready to eat

Another reason why MOUNTAIN HOUSE® is the LEADER in FREEZE DRIED FOOD TECHNOLOGY...and FIRST choice with outdoor people everywhere!

**1976 customer catalog**

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ALBANY, OREGON 97321 U.S.A.

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