

PhilSearch vB03 - News for August, 2007

It's hard to believe that PhilSearch is a year old this month ... it has come a long way in the past year. Its been a couple of months since I've made any significant changes for a variety of reasons, perhaps chief among them the fact that I'm running out of ideas and those that remain on the are difficult. The first of the tough ones is finally complete: Saved & Stored Searches. I had indicated in June that this long standing request was nearing completion. I'm finally ready to release that capability generally as I believe I've vanquished the last issue. This feature allows you to refine searches without having to re-enter all the parameters and also allows you to save one or more searches for use during a subsequent session. Enhancements in the future will focus on group collaboration in support of trek selection. There are several components to the capability:

- Revising a search: Buttons are on the bottom of the search results page that allow you to either start a new search or revise the current search.
- Invoking a saved search: A list of saved searches is included on the base trek search page, selecting a saved search will populate the selections on the page which you can then either modify or submit.
- Saving a search: An additional button is present on the search results page that will allow you to save search criteria. This capability requires that you create a PhilSearch account.

At this time there is no limit to the number of searches you can store, although abuse could cause me to re-think this. Your searches don't expire and can be retrieved in later sessions. Future capabilities will allow a crew to share searches, results and ultimately collaborate on trek selection. The registration process is automatic and instantaneous and, of course, free.

As the 2007 winds down I'd ask that each and every crew that used PhilSearch as a planning tool and found it valuable in planning their 2007 treks commit themselves to giving back. Even with all the photos that have been added more are needed. The list of needs is maintained in the Photo Album and on each trek summary. I'm frankly disappointed at the response to my request in June to cover the remaining gaps, I see no reason that we cannot have 100% coverage of campsites and activities today, yet we don't. If you have items that we need, please consider pitching in.

As always your comments, good or bad, and suggestions are welcome.

YIS

Jim

August, 2007