

Day Seven

“This is it! We’re goin’ in! This is what we’ve been training for...”

These, of course, are the most useless lines in all of the dramatic arts. They were made famous in World War II movies where fighter pilots were talking to each other into their half-attached oxygen masks, where supposedly there was a microphone, that supposedly worked, when suddenly they realized they were over the enemy carrier group, which they could now see below, through the cracks and holes that opened in the melting clouds. The only problem was that their position was now known to the enemy, who was launching the counter-attack dog fighters. It was pretty clear that “this was it” to the audience. It was also clear that they were going in. After forty years of writing poetry I got one accepted where I am going to get paid \$25 for it by a literary journal (usually I only get a free copy). To think some producer paid some Hollywood writer a ton of union scale bucks, with digital residuals, to write this particular series of lines seems unfair to me.

These lines were adopted in all related movies from Star Wars to Bad News Bears kiddie baseball cinema. And now I heard them used this morning, with regard to bicycle riding up Mount Tamalpais. I can’t remember if my wife or my kid sister started this, knowing that those three lines drive me crazy. You would think after the Sierra Nevada Mountains had been conquered by this group, this little issue of a day hike hill wouldn’t be so dramatic, but the talk at the camp during breakfast was quiet and stark. However, truly, the greatest fear discussed at the picnic tables was the likelihood of colliding with the dreaded tourists on the Golden Gate Bridge who will be riding their bikes while taking group selfies with selfie-sticks that could grow up to six feet long, blindly taking up the entire bike path!

The first image below shows our crew summoning the courage of Dramon Green with their Power Pose. It is better to take these picture in the morning, BEFORE the ride.

Also there are some shots of the scenery, yesterday’s Highway 1 and to remind us all where this started, the Sierra’s.

I’ll be seeing you at Golden Gate Park in a few hours (if I can find a place to park an over-sized RV without the locals setting it on fire).

Roger









