

History of Gear Series: Alan Wenker, Vintage Backpack Collector

Chase Anderson

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Alan Wenker with one of his backpacks in the great outdoors

In the latest History of Gear Series, Alan Wenker, backpacking enthusiast and collector talks about the history of backpacks over time, why he has over fifty packs in his collection, and the evolution of gear.

Wenker shares his experience growing up, learning about gear through his Boy Scout troop, and slowly being introduced to good gear through Backpacker Magazine. Wenker talks about the evolution of gear including, in some ways, the decline in quality in some products, versus the durability of vintage gear.

Read more about Alan Wenker and his collection in this [article from Carryology](#).

Watch the whole conversation on [YouTube](#) or listen on the [Highlander Podcast](#).

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