

Coonskin Cap, Captured

Is it possible? I think so; yep, it's the Coonskin Cap that we have long missed; the one that Ben, my son, wore on a number of occasions.

Coonskin caps were popular (again) during the 1940's – or about the time that Disney produced the story of the legendary Davy Crockett followed by the series, Daniel Boone.



The idea and imagination of being a frontiersman – or of being on the frontier of some undeveloped setting – was what excited kids across the States. Everyday (or episode) presented new adventures, risks and the prospect of being hero for Davy, Daniel and their kind. What boy

wouldn't want to be wrapped in rawhide and outfitted with everything to survive on his back or a mule?

Davy Crockett was a man's man; both a pioneer and a statesman from Tennessee. Daniel Boone was a man, was a big man...

But these were just two of the many who struck out for the remote regions of the colonies or young America. Many got the wonder lust from tells (no doubt some of them tall tales). Some survived but many did not. Being a pioneer must have been a very hard life in reality – with or without a coonskin cap.

Back to one of my heroes, Ben, I remember some older men getting a real charge out of seeing him with that cap on; it reminded them of the 40's – when they were boys. There is something special in moments like those and remembering his choice of headwear draw such interest and amusement from others.



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