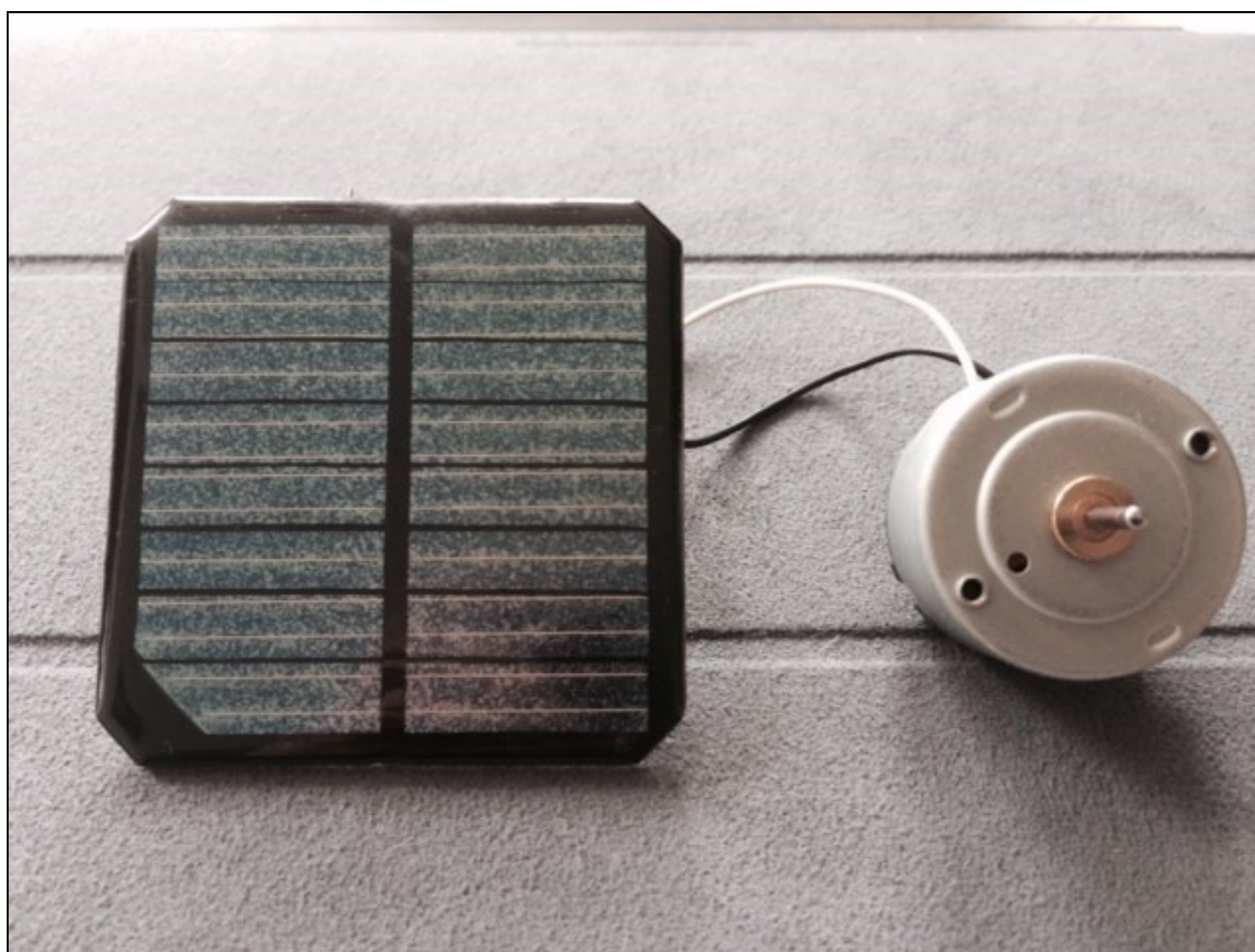


Sam (“Solar Sam”) Weihe

March 24, 1918 — February 7, 2010

This kiosk is erected in honor of Solar Sam, who devoted his retirement years to educating students about the power of the sun. A man ahead of his time, his innovation and creativity led him to design products that were educational, recreational and inspirational.



An early invention of Sam’s, pictured above is a 4-volt solar panel attached to a small motor. Once the sun hit the solar panel, students could see the gear in the motor rotate. Sam would provide the students with random materials— spoons, popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners, etc.— and asked them to create a mini solar project. Soon students were bringing in their own materials from home and building more interesting, exciting solar projects.