



# The SOLAR Ray

Visit us at [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org)

A monthly publication of the School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR)

June 2010

## New Class Offered Through SOLAR: Basics of Beginning Kayaking

by Bernadette Lois



SOLAR Members are encouraged to use the online calendar at [www.meetup.com/SOLAR-Outdoors](http://www.meetup.com/SOLAR-Outdoors) for convenient class and trip sign-ups.

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Do you have paddling gear you don't know how to use? Have you rented or borrowed kayaking equipment and "winged it" to fool your friends into thinking you are an avid paddler? If so, come on out for a few evening sessions this summer to learn the Basics of Beginning Kayaking. You will have the opportunity to learn about safety, boat/gear types and fit; how to launch and wet-exit your boat; paddle forward, backward, and stop; how to get back in your boat from the water; rescue by yourself and with a partner. The intent is to learn simple skills to stay safe and have fun! You will become a legitimate kayaker and your friends will be impressed.

Classes will take place at Stony Creek Metropark on Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 p.m. Dates are July 14, 21, 28 and August 4. The class fee is \$25. Additional costs include paying for your weekly Metropark entry (or an annual pass), and providing your own gear.

#### A short list of gear requirements:

- kayak with flotation (bulkhead(s) or float bag(s))
- PFD
- paddle
- non-cotton clothing
- water shoes, preferably without laces (no Texas/Chacos)
- water bottle
- a great attitude!



Upon inclement weather, we will retreat to a nearby establishment for indoor educating and networking.

If you're the committing type, you can sign up with me *before* the next SOLAR meeting (slavicgal@yahoo.com). If not, see me at the meeting with your \$25. There is only room for 12 students, so act fast! More details to follow, once you're registered.



**SOLAR is pleased to welcome the following new members to the club!**

Teresa Infante  
Jessica Monroe\*  
Keith Oliver  
Carin VanPatten

\* Jessica was mistakenly identified by the wrong name in the print edition of this newsletter.

 Find us on  
**Facebook**  
[Facebook.com/SOLAROutdoors](http://Facebook.com/SOLAROutdoors)

## Dutch Oven Cook-off and Potluck Picnic

WHERE: Island Lake Recreation Area or Proud Lake Recreation Area (yet to be confirmed). *If we can have it at Proud Lake or Heavner's Canoe and Kayak Rental area, we will share the day with the Kayak Build Show-N-Tell and Moonlight Canoeing activities.*



WHEN: Saturday, June 26, 2010  
1:00 p.m. - Work up your appetite hiking or paddling  
4:00 p.m. - Cooking begins

We are getting together after a hike (if desired) to show folks how to prepare and cook a Dutch oven dish. Anyone who has a Dutch oven and a recipe – or is interested in learning – is encouraged to join us!

You will learn how to use this longtime campfire favorite and eat, or bring a seasoned oven and a recipe and eat. If you plan to participate in the eating part and you don't have a Dutch oven, please bring something to share such as a dish to pass or bag of chips. *Please be advised that most State Parks do not allow alcoholic beverages.*

Anyone planning to use a Dutch oven is advised to bring a small portable charcoal grill to contain the oven and the charcoal, so we don't leave black "crop circles" on the grass.

This event is planned as a learning experience. Some folks will know more than others, but I suspect everyone will gain something and have some fun.

Please call or email me to let me know if you will bring an oven and/or a dish and to confirm location.

Jim Coe, [jimc27k@gmail.com](mailto:jimc27k@gmail.com) or 810-772-8662.

## Caesar Creek State Park Little Miami State Park and River

*July 2 - 5, 2010*

Come join us as we celebrate the July 4th holiday. This kid- and dog-friendly outing will be close to home; only about a 4 hour drive, just south of Dayton, Ohio.

Caesar Creek State Park is highlighted by clear blue waters, scattered woodlands, meadows and steep ravines. The park offers some of the finest outdoor recreation in southwest Ohio, including boating, hiking, camping and fishing. There are 43 miles of hiking trails, 8.5 miles of mountain biking trails, a lake with a 1,300 foot beach, and fossil hunting. Nearby is the Little Miami paved bike trail system with over 150 miles of trails. There is also a bike rental shop, ice cream store and winery nearby. We are going to canoe or kayak the Little Miami River on Monday and have a traditional potluck dinner on Saturday night.

We will be camping at the Wellman Group Camp within the park. We will have the entire camp to ourselves. There are flush toilets, a picnic shelter and showers nearby (8 miles) at the main campground. There is also a huge lawn for playing croquet or bocce ball. Weather permitting, there will be a nightly campfire. There may be ice cream included if we have enough money.

### Cost:

Camp and canoe \$40; camp and kayak \$45; camp only \$20.

If you are interested please contact Leslie Cordova at (248) 547-5626 or [lesliegene@aol.com](mailto:lesliegene@aol.com).

We asked SOLAR club members...  
*about their craziest adventure with SOLAR.*



*Meg and Eric Braun*

Eric: Peeing in a Nalgene bottle.

Meg: My craziest adventure was on one of Leslie's caving trips. I was with Charles Hailey, Laura and Roger James and Peggy DeVos. We toured a cave where we had to walk through an underground lake that was chest deep and crawl through a stream in an area where the ceiling was so low you could only see the shoe bottoms of the person in front of you. That's where I found out I'm slightly claustrophobic! (OK, more than slightly.) It was a lot of fun, but I think I will stick to caves with high ceilings from now on!



*Tim Davis*

I was taking the Mountaineering class in 2007 and our practical was at Nordhouse Dunes. It was in February, and there was a blizzard warning for the whole west side of the state. Well, we went anyways. For part of our practical we had to get up at midnight, rope up and go climb the frozen dunes. The temperature was hovering just above zero, the wind was blowing 20 to 30 miles an hour and the snow was coming down so hard you couldn't see more than a few hundred feet. I remember taking a step back and thinking, "Who in their right minds would be doing this?" Only in SOLAR!! We all went out and climbed the frozen dunes and remained warm and dry. It was a lot of fun, quite an adventure and more than a little crazy.

## SOLAR's 2010-2011 Steering Committee

SOLAR held its annual Steering Committee elections on Tuesday, May 4. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to lead our club for the next year, and congratulations to those who were elected.

*Club members are welcome to attend Steering Committee (SC) meetings, which are usually held in the homes of SC members. Attending an SC meeting provides insight into decisions being made, and offers members the opportunity to voice ideas and suggestions. To attend an SC meeting, contact the President at [SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org).*

*The following newly elected Steering Committee members started their terms at the May 25 SC meeting:*

President—Allen Duncan  
Vice President—Heather Hall  
Treasurer—Mary Donahue  
Secretary—Glenn Schultz  
Activities—Jennifer McWilliams  
Bylaws—Ati Tislerics  
Education—Chuck Smith  
Equipment—Marcia Murphy  
Historian—Samantha Schafer\*\*  
Membership—Mary Price  
Programs—Debbie Zuchlewski  
Public Relations—Samantha Mozdierz  
SOLAR Ray Editor—Jennifer Tislerics  
Webmaster—Jeff McWilliams

*\*\* Samantha Schafer has since resigned the Historian position due to a job relocation. See page 4 for further details on the Historian position.*

*Have a question to suggest?  
Contact the Ray Editor at [SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org).*

## Open SOLAR Steering Committee Position:

### Historian

Have you considered serving on the SOLAR Steering Committee? Samantha Schafer, our Historian, has recently resigned due to a job relocation. The Steering Committee intends to fill this open position in the coming weeks.

The Historian serves as the Chair of the Historian Committee, the function of which is "to compile and maintain a record of S.O.L.A.R. activities utilizing all necessary documentation methods to extol the fulfillment of the stated purpose of S.O.L.A.R." [SOLAR Bylaws, Section 4.4 G] Additionally, the Historian attends monthly Steering Committee meetings, participating in the Steering Committee's voting, deliberation and decision making.

A detailed description of the Steering Committee is available online: <http://solaroutdoors.org/About/Bylaws.aspx>

If you are interested in serving as Historian, please contact Glenn Schultz BY JUNE 22, 2010 via e-mail: [SolarSecretary@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarSecretary@SolarOutdoors.org).

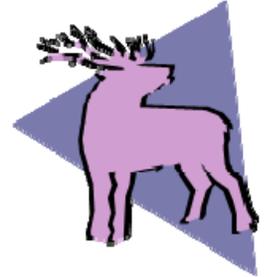
After June 22, the Steering Committee will assess the list of interested members. If only one person expresses a desire to be Historian the Steering Committee will appoint that person to the position. If more than one member is interested in the position, the Steering Committee will determine the next step, likely deciding to hold a special election at the July 6 Membership meeting.

For additional information, please contact Allen Duncan ([SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org)) or any Steering Committee member.

## TWO DOG FLATS

*By Glenn Schultz*

Two Dog Flats is where elk graze  
And mule deer join them on many days  
In Glacier National, that Park in Montana  
Where one can go solo or bring your family



This stretch of meadow that is west of Saint Mary  
When elk travel through, the time sometimes varies  
Around four in the afternoon and until, say, eight  
And there are no fences and there are no gates

Watch the bulls and the cows, the bucks and the does  
To see them up close bring your binocular scopes  
They never will mind you as they stroll the tree line  
If you make slow movements then all will be fine

East Going-to-the-Sun Road, this place in the Park  
In the late afternoon, early evening, before dark  
To observe wild life in their natural habitat  
A great place for viewing is this Two Dog Flats.

## SOLAR/Proud Lake Moonlight Canoeing

This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. Come to Proud Lake State Recreation Area and paddle a canoe or kayak into the setting sun, then return by paddling back into the moonrise. When you return to the canoe rental, a bonfire will be awaiting you. Each evening will include pizza dinner. No partner necessary, all skill levels are welcome. Dress for the weather, including headlamps and water bottles.

Who: All are welcome. Child and dog friendly.

Where: Heavner's Canoe Livery, 2775 Garden Road, Milford, Michigan 48381

Cost: Canoe or kayak \$30 per person. Includes pizza dinner, boat rental (canoe or kayak), bonfire. Boat rental only (no dinner) \$25 per person. Dinner only (bring your own boat) \$15 per person. Bonfire only (no dinner, bring your own boat) \$5 per person.



When: Five moonlight canoeing/kayaking trips will be offered this year; to see a [full schedule](#) visit the Files section of the Yahoo! Group, the [Meetup.com calendar](#) or click on the link in the Ray's calendar to view the flyer.



The first moonlight paddling trip of the year will be on Saturday, June 26, 2010. Dinner will be at 8:00, paddling at 8:45. Sunset will be at 9:13 pm and moonrise at 9:36 pm.

Preregister by calling Heavner Canoe Livery at (248) 685-2379. Please call in your reservation AT LEAST 24 hours before the event. Dinner will not be available for those who do not preregister. For more information call Margaret at 734-721-2821 or email her at [mpluscat@yahoo.com](mailto:mpluscat@yahoo.com).

## Shiawassee River Paddle

*June 6, 2010*

This is one of the larger paddling get-togethers of the summer in southern Michigan, which has drawn well over 100 local canoeists and kayakers for the past 5 years.

There is both a leisure paddle (open to all paddlers with proper life vest) and a race (for those who wish to compete).

Put-in: WaterWorks Park— 602 South Broad St., Holly, MI 48442-1674

Take-out: Strom Park— 299 South East Street, Fenton, MI (near the East Street Bridge)

Distance: 7 scenic miles of numerous twists and turns

Schedule:

10:00 am : On-site registration at WaterWorks Park

11:30 am : Introductory Ceremony

11:45 am : Experienced Canoeists Start

12:15 pm : Novice/Youth Canoeists Start

12:45 pm : Kayak/Single Person Canoeists Start

1:15 pm : Leisure/Fun Paddle Start

6:00 pm : Final river sweep completed

Canoes are available for rental through Heavner's Canoe Livery.

Shuttle transportation will be available all day long until 6 pm.

Questions?

Contact Doug Lanyk 248-634-4551 or [dslanyk@comcast.net](mailto:dslanyk@comcast.net)

Contact Willi Gutmann 586-215-6387 or [Willi\\_H2O@yahoo.com](mailto:Willi_H2O@yahoo.com)

### Words to Wander By

One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming outside our windows today.

*- Dale Carnegie*

# Kayaking DVDs and Books Available for Loan to SOLAR Members

by Chuck Smith

SOLAR has a good collection of learning tools for you!  
Contact the equipment chair at  
[SolarEquipment@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarEquipment@SolarOutdoors.org) to check these out.

## We have the books:

*Sea Kayaker's Deep Trouble* (I think it's a must read for anybody paddling open water. EXCELLENT read, too.) Sea Kayaker magazine reports on accidents and near accidents so its readers might learn from the experience of others rather than having to learn the hard way. Sea Kayaker's Deep Trouble gathers more than twenty of the most compelling and instructive of these reports, outlining the circumstances of each accident and providing detailed analyses: What did the paddlers do wrong? What did they do right? Most importantly, how might the accident have been prevented? With a comprehensive introduction to kayaking safety and three dozen sidebars on gear, skills, and techniques, this book is a must for any sea kayaker who wants to paddle safely.

## *Guide to Sea Kayaking in Lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario*

## And we have these University of Sea Kayaking DVDs:

### *Capsize Recoveries & Rescue Procedures*

*Directed by Wayne Horodowich.* This two disc set holds over 4 hours of information on capsize recoveries, emergency and rescue procedures. Since exposure to the elements is the number one cause of death among sea kayakers, and capsizing is part of sea kayaking, you cannot afford to miss the information presented in these DVDs.

[See more details on this 2 disc set](#)

*Vol. 3 DVD *Beyond the Cockpit**, featuring Derek Hutchinson. *Directed by Wayne Horodowich.* Lean out "beyond the cockpit" and you can begin doing amazing things with your kayak in calm water or rough water conditions. A kayak will dance on the water if you know how to lead. Spend an hour with Derek Hutchinson and Wayne Horodowich as they share many of these skills with you on this DVD.

[See more details on "Beyond the Cockpit"](#)

### *Vol. 4 DVD *ABCs Of The Surf Zone** *Directed by Wayne Horodowich*

180 minutes of comprehensive instruction; Winner of "Best video of the Year" from Sea Kayaker Magazine's 2005 Reader's Poll.

### *Greenland Rolling with Dubsid*

Rolling is the most effective rescue technique a kayaker can have. Learning a wide selection of rolling methods will improve your confidence, safety, and enjoyment.

Layback and Forward Ending Rolls, Basic Sculling, Throwing Stick Rolls

### *Detailed instructions for 18 different maneuvers:*

- Slow motion and stop action analysis
- Key points summarized
- Adjustments and modifications for easier rolling

### *Bonus material:*

- Rolling rec boats and sit-on-tops
- Preview of Volume Two: advanced rolls
- Demo of trick and stunt rolls

*CAUTION:* Learning Greenland Rolls can be addictively fun!

And for arm chair adrenaline, we have the complete set of *This is the Sea* DVDs. If you paddle, you probably know some people in volume IV.

### *This is the Sea*, the First Ever Sea Kayaking Action Video *Directed by Justine Curgenvan*

Thrilling footage taken in big surf and roaring tidal races lets you feel you are in the boat with expert paddlers. Watch their eyes bulge and hear them scream in excitement as they meet the challenge of big water!

[View the trailer - \(Flash\)](#) or [See more details on Disc 1](#)

*This is the Sea Two*, Sea kayaking has never been so much fun!

*Directed by Justine Curgenvan.*

Stunning photography from Japan, Tasmania, Newfoundland, The Great Lakes, Skooks, Norway & Wales featuring some of the world's best paddlers. You will be inspired.

[View the trailer - \(Flash\)](#) or [See more details on Disc 2](#)

### *This is the Sea Three*

*Directed by Justine Curgenvan.*

Justine Curgenvan's expedition to the dramatic Faroe Islands in Europe. Fairytale scenery including the world's tallest vertical cliff and thousands of sea birds. Gales break her tent, tidal races and fog challenge her on the water and local people invite her into their homes. Including much more fantastic sea kayaking action!

[View the trailer - \(Flash\)](#) or [See more details on Disc 3](#)

### *This is the Sea Four*

*Directed by Justine Curgenvan.*

2 Disc Set - Featuring 3 fascinating expedition stories - British Columbia's Queen Charlotte islands; island hopping from Australia to Tasmania across the Bass Strait; and a 2400 km trip around the stunning South Island of New Zealand. Also See: Rough water rolling, Greenland rope gymnastics & commando kayaking with DUBSIDE, Kayak fishing in San Diego, Sea Caves of Lake Superior and much more!

[View the trailer - \(Flash\)](#) or [See more details on Disc 4](#)

*(These books and DVDs were purchased with class funds from the Open Water Sea Kayak Skills class.)*

*Editor's Note: These hyperlinks are live and clickable!*

## SPOTLIGHT ON...



*Pam Esper,*  
SOLAR Member

*Which classes have you taken through SOLAR?* The night I joined SOLAR I also signed up for the Adventure Racing Class. I had no idea what I was in for. I've also taken Basic Backpacking. This Spring I'm in the Basic Land Navigation class and plan to take Wilderness First Aid in November.

*What class(es) do you wish were offered that are not currently?* Classes on my list of interest are Search and Rescue, and Rock Climbing.

*What has been your favorite trip/activity so far?* The trip last year to Heart Lake in the Adirondacks was great. I love the mountains and they did not disappoint me. The colors were magnificent, several of us followed Don up Cascade Mountain, he said it was an

easy "get acquainted" hike. I learned there are two definitions of "easy", Don's and everyone else's. The company was great and we even did a little wine tasting. If you've never been, it's worth the drive.

*Tell us something about you that would surprise us!* I have a big fear of flying. That's not the surprising part, lots of people do. The fact that experiencing weightlessness is on my "Bucket List" is.

*Do you have any pets? Kids? Significant Other?* I have two cats, Emma who is seven and Jake who I adopted after meeting him at my first SOLAR picnic in July of 2008. Went for the food, and well, the rest is family.

*How long have you been a member of SOLAR?* I've been a member of SOLAR over two years, joined in February of 2008.

*How did you first learn of SOLAR?* A friend knew of the group from someone who had been a member years ago; she mentioned it when I said I needed to find some friends who like doing things outdoors. You see, I didn't grow up in a family that enjoyed the outdoors and most of my friends consider a Holiday Inn to be "roughing it".

*What are some outdoorsy activities you enjoy?* I enjoy hiking, mountain biking (though really just learning the skills) and canoeing. I've only done a little backpacking, but enjoyed that so far.

*What would your ideal trip be like?* Going back to Alaska, hands down. A few years ago I did a cruise up there, spent two days in and around Denali National Park. I fell in love with the place and hope to go back, maybe in 2012. I'd like to spend more time in Denali, hit Fairbanks, then go up to Prudhoe Bay and the Arctic Circle. Those are just the highlights.



## Grand River Expedition

*July 14 - 26, 2010*

Join hundreds of passionate, like-minded people in traveling from Jackson to Grand Haven in the style of the 1700s. Paddle Michigan's longest river, the 260 mile Grand River. Last held in 1990, the Grand River Expedition is unlikely to be held again until 2020! If you choose to do the whole 12 day expedition, you will help the river's health, paddle 225 miles and make 14 portages. The special memories and friendships you make during GRE2010 will last long after the boat is clean and dry.

For more information, contact Don Jones at [jonesdlus2@yahoo.com](mailto:jonesdlus2@yahoo.com). Online registration is pending, but registration by mail is available until June 15 at [http://michigan.sierraclub.org/pdfs/GRE2010/GRE2010\\_reg\\_form\\_final.pdf](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/pdfs/GRE2010/GRE2010_reg_form_final.pdf)

A SOLAR flag will travel the expedition route and be prominently displayed in camp, providing a rallying point and photo opportunity for SOLARites.

# Canoe Outing/Party

July 23-25

Join me and about 30 - 40 other SOLARites for a fun-filled weekend of canoeing and camping north of Grayling. This is usually one of the largest SOLAR bashes of the year. It is not a serious wilderness experience - just tons of fun splashing and an all-around good time at a rustic scenic campsite right on the river. Due to the nature of this outing - no youngsters or dogs should participate.

On Saturday, we will take a leisurely four hour paddle down the crystal-clear Manistee River. You don't even need to take your lunch with you, as we stop by our campsite on the paddle downstream! We will have the canoes all day, so you can take your time.

The Manistee is a pretty easy river - most sections are less than 3 feet deep, but on some bends it goes as deep as 8 feet! The beginning of the paddle can be pretty tricky, with some tight turns and sweepers, but then it widens out and is very easy. There's a little bit of everything on this trip.

Saturday night you can go into Grayling to watch the start of the Grayling to Oscoda canoe race, which has been called the most exciting start in all of sports. On Sunday, sleep in, swim or hike Hartwick Pines, which is less than 10 miles from our campsite.

Cost - \$15.00 per person for two nights of camping & firewood. It's up to you to find a canoe partner, or figure it out when we get there. If you already have a paddle mate, let me know so I can keep

track of who is with whom.

Canoes - I will not be reserving the canoes - that is your responsibility! I will be calling the outfitter, Shel-Haven Canoe & Kayak Rental in Grayling, and arranging the group trip. What you should do, after the June meeting, is call Shel-Haven (989) 348-2158 ([www.shelhaven.com](http://www.shelhaven.com)) and ask for Tom's (or the SOLAR) trip on the last weekend in July. It's about \$28.00 per canoe or \$24.00 for a kayak. I will have more details at the June and July SOLAR meetings.

Please try to carpool! I'll be leaving Friday morning and plan on arriving between 1 and 2 p.m. IF ANYONE CAN GO EARLIER PLEASE GET ONE OF THE SITES ON THE RIVER!!!! This is at a State Forest Campground where sites cannot be reserved.

Camping Info - My plan is to have two group sites next to each other. One is for late nighters and the other for those who want to get some sleep. Anyone picking the quiet site is more than welcome to stay at the late nighters' site to their heart's content, I'm not trying to segregate us into two camps. This is just a courtesy. Plus, 40 of us will NOT fit onto one site! It is a rustic campground with vault toilets and water you hand pump from a well.

What to Bring - Pack light!! It about 300 yards to the campsites from the parking area, so leave heavy items in your car, such as extra food and clothing until you need them.

- A wagon is highly recommended to move gear and food back and forth.
- Folding chairs

- If you've got a portable grill, try to bring it.
- BUY EXTRA ICE!!!!
- Liquor is ALLOWED but please try to bring cans if drinking beer.
- Bug spray!
- Food-wise, you are on your own; there will be no potluck at this outing. You can bring something to pass around the campfire if you wish, though!

- Anything else you want to carry in, just remember - everything IN goes OUT!!!

What to Bring on the Paddle - First & foremost, everything you bring should be in dry bags or double wrapped in trash bags! I know, I know, "I'm not going to tip." Famous last words!!

- Bring your own PFD, or you can rent one from Shel-Haven
- SHOES ARE A REQUIREMENT!! There are lots of tree branches in the river not to mention an errant fishhook or two. Plan on them getting wet - you may have to get out in some low water areas!! Bring another pair, to have dry shoes available for camp.
- Plenty of sunscreen and bug spray
- Hat & sunglasses
- Long-sleeve shirt, no cotton if possible. You may want to bring fleece; it can get cool in the evening! The water can be pretty cold, if you should just happen to maybe tip.
- Bring plenty of water or Gatorade to drink (something besides alcohol) and some energy snacks. No need to pack a

lunch, we will be stopping at our campsite for lunch during the canoe trip.

- Water guns can be fun, but make sure the person you are squirting is as enthusiastic as you!

Directions - Upper Manistee River Campground is on the west side of the river. The website is <http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=553&type=SFCG>

1. Take I-75 north to Exit 264, Frederic Highway 612.
2. Reset your trip odometer. You will be going approximately 7 miles west.
3. Turn left, proceed through the village of Frederic. The road makes a small jog at the BP gas station (last place for supplies) - left and than a quick right.
4. As you go west on Highway 612, the road is curvy and hilly. There will be a streetlight at Manistee River Road, just before the bridge. Cross over the Manistee River.
5. Turn Left on Goose Creek Road - it is the first major dirt road after the bridge.
6. Go one mile to the campground road, on your left. Turn left, take this for one more mile to the actual campground. Go to the left for group camping, or canoe or walk-in sites. Park in the parking lot. If you are at a campground with lots of horses, you are at the wrong spot!

For more information, call me at 313-461-4933 or email me at [mcmountainman@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmountainman@yahoo.com).

Tom O.

# SOLAR JUNE 2010 CALENDAR

[www.SolarOutdoors.org](http://www.SolarOutdoors.org)

## SOLAR MEETING AND PROGRAM DATES

|     |      |                                     |             |                   |                                  |
|-----|------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6/1 | Tues | Monthly Meeting 7:30pm              | Colony Hall | Allen Duncan      | SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org |
|     |      | Program – TBA                       | Colony Hall | Debbie Zuchlewski | SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org  |
| 7/6 | Tues | Monthly Meeting 7:30pm              | Colony Hall | Allen Duncan      | SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org |
|     |      | Program – Summer Picnic & Gear Swap | Colony Hall | Debbie Zuchlewski | SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org  |
| 8/3 | Tues | Monthly Meeting 7:30pm              | Colony Hall | Allen Duncan      | SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org |
|     |      | Program – TBA                       | Colony Hall | Debbie Zuchlewski | SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org  |

## SOLAR RAY DEADLINES

|      |       |                           |  |                    |                                  |
|------|-------|---------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6/17 | Thurs | June SOLAR Ray Deadline   |  | Jennifer Tislerics | SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org |
| 7/15 | Thurs | July SOLAR Ray Deadline   |  | Jennifer Tislerics | SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org |
| 8/19 | Thurs | August SOLAR Ray Deadline |  | Jennifer Tislerics | SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org |

## ACTIVITIES

|                |       |  |                               |                    |                           |
|----------------|-------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 6/3, 10, 17,24 | Thurs | Come Play with Your Sea Kayak                  | Lake St. Clair, MI            | Chuck Smith        | cbryansmit@gmail.com      |
| 6/4-6          | Wknd  | Trails Day Camping Weekend                     | Brighton Recreation Area      | Carol McCrie       | cmccrie@sbcglobal.net     |
| 6/6            | Sun   | <a href="#">Shiawassee River Paddle Event</a>  | Holly, MI                     | Willi Gutmann      | Willi_H2O@yahoo.com       |
| 6/6            | Sun   | Intro to Kayaking                              | Proud Lake State Park         | Matt Dalton        | mdalton@ameritech.net     |
| 6/26           | Sat   | <a href="#">Moonlight Canoe Paddle</a>         | Proud Lake State Park         | Margaret Martin    | mpluscat@yahoo.com        |
| 6/26           | Sat   | <a href="#">Dutch Oven Cook-off</a>            | Island Lake Rec. Area         | Jim Coe            | jimc27K@gmail.com         |
| 6/26           | Sat   | Kayak Builder's Showcase                       | Proud Lake State Park         | Chuck Smith        | cbryansmit@gmail.com      |
| 7/2-5          | Wknd  | <a href="#">Fourth of July Weekend Camping</a> | Caesar Creek State Park       | Leslie Cordova     | lesliegene@aol.com        |
| 7/14-26        | Multi | <a href="#">Grand River Expedition 2010</a>    | Lower Michigan                | Don Jones          | jonesdlus2@yahoo.com      |
| 7/24           | Sat   | <a href="#">Moonlight Canoe Paddle</a>         | Proud Lake State Park         | Margaret Martin    | mpluscat@yahoo.com        |
| 7/23-25        | Wknd  | <a href="#">Crazy Canoe Weekend</a>            | Grayling, MI                  | Tom Oloffo         | mcmountainman@yahoo.com   |
| 7/24-25        | Wknd  | MS Canadian Bike Ride                          | Grand Bend to London, Ontario | Samantha Mozdzierz | backpacker0617@yahoo.com  |
| 8/2010         | Multi | Backpack Trip                                  | Glacier National Park         | Bill Lynch         | blynch@mayne-mckenney.com |
| 8/28           | Sat   | <a href="#">Moonlight Canoe Paddle</a>         | Proud Lake State Park         | Margaret Martin    | mpluscat@yahoo.com        |
| 8/28           | Sat   | Crim 10 miler, Team Challenge                  | Flint, MI                     | Allen Duncan       | aduncan85@gmail.com       |
| 9/9 - 10/7     | Multi | Gaelic Adventure                               | Ireland/Scotland              | Jim Gessner        | gessnerj@comcast.net      |
| 9/25           | Sat   | <a href="#">Moonlight Canoe Paddle</a>         | Proud Lake State Park         | Margaret Martin    | mpluscat@yahoo.com        |
| 10/23          | Sat   | <a href="#">Moonlight Canoe Paddle</a>         | Proud Lake State Park         | Margaret Martin    | mpluscat@yahoo.com        |
| 4/2-9/2011     | Multi | St. John Escape                                | St. John, VI                  | Jim Gessner        | gessnerj@comcast.net      |

## CLASSES

|  |                   |                                       |  |               |                           |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|---------------------------|
| 5/26, 6/2 6/5-6                          | Weds, Wknd        | <a href="#">Basic Land Navigation</a> | Berkley Comm. Center, Waterloo Rec. Area   | Brian Andrews | offthemapknives@gmail.com |
| 8/26, 9/2,9,11, 16,17-19, 23,30, 10/7-10 | Thurs, Sat, Wknds | Fall Basic Backpacking                | Royal Oak, MI<br>Northville, MI<br>Pinckney, MI<br>Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore | Carol McCrie  | cmccrie@sbcglobal.net     |
| 11/4, 6-7                                | Thurs, Wknd       | Wilderness First Aid                  | TBD  | Mary Price    | mathildet@sbcglobal.net   |

If you would like to plan/lead an activity for SOLAR, contact our Activities Chairperson, Jennifer McWilliams, at [SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org).

If you would like to teach or suggest a class for SOLAR, contact our Education Chairperson, Chuck Smith, at [SolarEducation@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarEducation@SolarOutdoors.org).

SOLAR HAS A NO-REFUND POLICY. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN ACTIVITY, YOU MAY "SELL YOUR SPOT" TO ANOTHER CLUB MEMBER.



**WHAT IS SOLAR?**

SOLAR is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization with 400-plus members who enjoy the outdoors. Members share their knowledge and experience with each other by leading classes and coordinating activities/trips.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is only \$40 a year per person (\$55 per family) and includes free access to most club-owned equipment, a monthly newsletter, and a chance to meet hundreds of other like-minded adventurers drawn together by a common love of pristine lakes, breathtaking vistas, deep forests, scenic shorelines, and the experiences to be found there. Lifetime memberships are available for \$175 (single) and \$250 (family).

**MEETINGS**

Our monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month in Southfield at Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen (between 8 Mile & 9 Mile Roads) at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**SOLAR RAY NEWSLETTER**

The *SOLAR Ray* is a monthly publication of SOLAR and is available online at [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org). To receive a copy in the mail, please contact Mary Price at [SOLARmembership@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:SOLARmembership@solaroutdoors.org).

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Submissions for the *SOLAR Ray* are due on the Thursday three weeks prior to the monthly Membership meeting. Articles, poems, recipes, etc. should be submitted in electronic format, preferably in Microsoft Word. Please attach images separately. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Tislerics at [SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org).

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

|                                |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President: Cindy Taylor        | Activities: Samantha Schafer   | Bylaws: Allen Duncan              |
| Vice President: Carol McCririe | Education: Marie Martinko      | Equipment: Laura Buhl             |
| Secretary: Samantha Mozdzierz  | Historian: Chuck Smith         | Membership: Mary Price            |
| Treasurer: Mary Donahue        | Programs: Debbie Zuchlewski    | Public Relations: Gloria Fontaine |
|                                | Ray Editor: Jennifer Tislerics | Webmaster: Jeff McWilliams        |

**PRESIDENTS AT LARGE**

Mike Banks | Leslie Cordova | Al Fylak | Steve Gardner | Bill Halvingis | Cindy Harrison-Felix  
Tom Hayes | Joan Hettinger | Doug Lanyk | Larry Martin | Tom Oloffo | Lou Szakal  
Joan & Bob Westbrook

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Steering Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. These meetings are usually open to the general membership. Anyone who is interested in learning what topics are discussed, the decisions being made or contemplating running for a position on the Steering Committee is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending the Steering Committee meeting, please contact Cindy Taylor at [SOLARpresident@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:SOLARpresident@solaroutdoors.org).

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SOLAR RAY ASSISTANT EDITORS**

Winnie Chrzanowski, Jennifer Hill, Ken Lemieux, Janet Schester, Pamela Schmelzer-Anzicek, Elizabeth Shaw, Rebecca Sweeton and Ati Tislerics.

**MORE INFORMATION**

Please visit our website at [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org) or attend one of our monthly meetings.



**SOLAR**

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