

The SOLAR Ray



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A monthly publication of the School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR) July 2010

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Putting it All Together - Basic Land Navigation

by Pam Esper

We came compass in hand, eager to unwrap the mystery of this small device from our ten essentials. Would we really learn what all those lines on the dial mean? And maps, would we really learn what all those symbols and scales really mean? Putting it all together was the goal.

Sixteen eager SOLARites showed up at the Berkley Community Center ready to learn. Brian Andrews, the class leader, got us started. On the first night of class we spent time learning about our compass: how it works, what affects it so it works properly (leave those western belt buckles at home) and most importantly using it to get you going in the right direction. Our second class was all about maps, types of maps, land formations, all the things we never really knew. It was like being a kid again as we matched land formation drawings. The water activity was, well, you'll just have to take the class for that.

Our instructors - Brian, Ati, Craig, Max, Linda, Michelle and Robin - were experienced and knowledgeable, giving us the courage to head out for our practical the weekend of June 2. There we were going to put it all together.

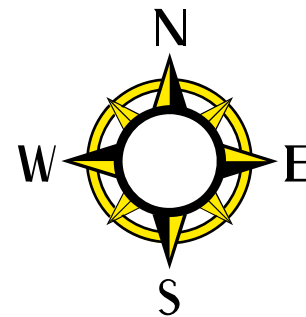
We arrived bright and early Saturday morning at the Waterloo Recreation area, settled into our modest accommodations and got our bearings before learning to

take a bearing. The mosquitoes met us in the yard and hung out all weekend. The day was packed full of lessons: taking a bearing, reading map features, learning navigating techniques and a short hike to get familiar with the real land features. The instructors even made declination make sense - who knew someone could actually do that?

Just as we broke for the night it started to rain. After dinner SOLARites settled into a typical evening, getting to know one another through lively conversation. The rain kept coming, adding a good dose of thunder and lightning, but Mother Nature wasn't quite done. A little after 11:00 p.m. a Park Ranger knocked on the cabin door to inform us the area was under a tornado warning. Luck was on our side that night, as we learned of the tornado damage only 50 miles to our southeast in the village of Dundee.

We finished out the weekend by setting out in small groups to find control points in the woods. The teams all finished, closing out another successful Basic Land Navigation class.

So if you're still not quite comfortable with a compass and map this is the class for you. Until then, just look for a recent graduate to hike with. We know the way!



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

SOLAR Workshop Women in the Woods 2010



Ever wonder why your pack doesn't fit right?

Where to find good women's backpacking clothes?

Why you still don't know how to light your stove?

Well, now you can get answers to these topics and more!

Workshop focuses on women's outdoor topics and hands-on equipment practice:

- Women-designed equipment, how to fit, where to find
- Hygiene/Health
- Safety in the woods
- Nutrition
- Exercise/Training for women
- Building self-confidence
- Knots
- Navigation
- Equipment review/practice- stoves, tents, tarps, water filters
- And much more!

NOTE that dates are corrected here, original flyer was incorrect!

- September 15: Evening classroom session, location TBD (Royal Oak, Troy, Southfield area)
- September 25-26: Proud Lake Recreation Area (Saturday 8:00 a.m. through Sunday 12:00 noon)
- October 15-17: Hiking practical at Red River Gorge, KY. Please note that we will begin hiking the morning of October 16, so you will need to drive down Thursday night after work.

Class Prerequisite: Beginning Backpacking Class. However, this course can be taken concurrently with the Fall Beginning Backpacking Class.

Class size: 16 students (A minimum of 8 students are needed to run the class.)

Cost: \$60.00

For questions or more information contact Pam Riehl Szakal at pariehl@gmail.com or 248-755-5873.

Special Election for Vacated Steering Committee Position - Historian

Samantha Schafer, our Historian, has accepted a new job out of state and has therefore resigned her position with SOLAR. The Steering Committee will be holding a special election at the July 6 general membership meeting to fill this open volunteer position.



The Historian serves as the Chair of the Historian Committee, the function of which is "to compile and maintain a record of SOLAR activities utilizing all necessary documentation methods to extol the fulfillment of the stated purpose of SOLAR." (SOLAR Bylaws, Section 4.4G) 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>

We currently have three SOLAR members who have expressed a desire to run for Historian. The current candidates are: Karen Haroutunian, Harry Price, Pam Riehl Szakal. All currently paid members are eligible to run and vote. All voting must take place in person at the July 6 meeting. Candidates will have an opportunity to introduce themselves before elections take place on July 6.

Please contact Debbie Zuchlewski at solarprograms@solaroutdoors.org if you would like to be added as a write-in candidate or if you have any questions.

Upcoming SOLAR Programs

by Debbie Zuchlewski, SOLAR Programs Chairperson

July Program: Annual SOLAR Picnic and Gear Swap

Special Election for Vacated Historian Steering Committee Position

Do you have outdoor gear you no longer use? Do you have duplicate items you have acquired over the years? This is your opportunity to sell or barter your unused/unwanted gear and help other SOLAR members at the same time. Bring your outdoor gear to the July general meeting and be ready to sell it to other people.

After the general membership meeting we will also hold our annual summer picnic. SOLAR will provide pulled chicken and pulled pork sandwiches, as well as veggie burgers, pop and water. Please bring a side dish to pass.

At the July meeting we will also hold a special election to fill the vacated Historian Chairperson position on the Steering Committee.

August Program: An Overview of Fall/Winter Educational Opportunities

SOLAR is fortunate to have many members with a wealth of knowledge, skills, and experiences, and a willingness to share them with other members through educational programs. At the August meeting several lead instructors will provide an overview of some of the most popular fall and winter educational opportunities available to SOLAR members.

Words to Wander By

Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.

— John Lubbock

Thanks to Pam Esper for submitting this quotation!

SOLAR Backpacking Course - Fall 2010



One of SOLAR's most popular classes, the Beginning Backpacking Class, starts this August. Beginning Backpacking teaches basics about trip planning, equipment, food, and other backpacking issues. It also gives you hands on experience at practicals, fun times, and new friends.

This class is for people who a) never backpacked and have always wanted to try it, b) new members who need the class as a prerequisite for other advanced classes or

just want to meet people, or c) members who just want a refresher or need an excuse to backpack.

Class begins August 26 and runs for six weeks (9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23 and 9/20). The weekend practicals are September 11, September 17 - 19 and October 8-10. Classes will be held in a location yet to be announced, and will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

You will need to participate each week, or make arrangements to review any pertinent information with a classmate. You should plan to attend all practicals to get the most out of the class. In order to attend the final practical at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in October, you must have completed the weekend practical in September.

The only prerequisites for this class are confirmation that you are a current, paid member of SOLAR and that you are interested in new experiences, new friends, or both! With the exception of hiking shoes or boots, you don't need to have your own gear - you will be able to sign out SOLAR gear for the class.

The class costs \$100, which includes a textbook, a class handbook, camping fees for both practicals, and dinner at Practical 1. Please bring cash or a check payable to "SOLAR" when you sign up for the class. Fees will be payable at the July and August general meetings to guarantee your spot in the class, and must be paid before the first night of class.

Any questions regarding the class should be directed to Carol McCririe at cmccririe@sbcglobal.net or Leslie Cordova at lesliegene@aol.com.

Backcountry Gourmet



Cherries Flambe

Submitted by Bernadette Lois

Ingredients:

- Dried tart cherries
- Brandy
- Sugar
- Tortillas
- Cream cheese
- Optional: choc chips

In camp:

Heat cherries in a pan with a little sugar and water, until most of the water is absorbed. While they're warming up, spread cream cheese on tortillas. Add a couple tablespoons of brandy to the cherries, heat for a few more seconds, then light the whole thing with a match or lighter. Scoop the cherries (careful, now!) onto the tortillas with a spoon, wrap, and eat.

Optional:

- Sprinkle chocolate chips in the tortilla before wrapping.
- Brown the tortillas, using a little butter or olive oil, before assembling with the cherry mixture.

Adjust ingredient measurements according to appetite and the number of hikers.

A CLOSING WORD FROM THE FORMER PRESIDENT

By Cindy Taylor

May 25th was my last day as SOLAR's president. It was a bittersweet day for me. It was tough to pass on the torch which had been a significant part of my life for the previous two years. These years as president have been a welcome learning experience for me and my life has been enriched by our club.

In true SOLAR spirit, members have supported each other through good times, tragedies and lots in between. I can't imagine what my life would be like today if I had not found SOLAR and all the friendships I've developed here. I've heard this same sentiment expressed by many, many other members. I realized a long time ago that SOLAR is a unique and special group, and it was an honor to serve these members. I would like to thank all of you for your vote of confidence in me!

I have been extremely lucky to be surrounded by many smart, passionate, and supportive Steering Committee (SC) and 'Peanut Gallery'* members during my time as president. I am extremely thankful for the efforts and responsiveness shown by SC members this past year. I realize that club members are often unaware of the dedication, commitment, and effort which Steering Committee members regularly put into leading the club, so I want to publicly acknowledge them for their support.

I also want to thank the many, many people who care enough to put their heart and soul into making SOLAR such a great club. This description extends well beyond the Steering Committee members, and includes each and every one of the members who help out in any way they are able—whether it's helping to set up/clean up Colony Hall at monthly meetings, serving on a committee, leading a class and/or activity, contributing to the Ray, or offering whatever service they can provide. It all adds up to making SOLAR a great club and community.

The 'sweet' part of all this for me that while it was somewhat difficult to pass the torch, having an extremely smart, competent, and qualified successor to pass it to made it much easier. Allen Duncan is committed to serving the SOLAR community. He has some fresh perspectives and good ideas for moving SOLAR forward. I know that SOLAR is in very capable hands. In addition, this year's Steering Committee appears to be another talented and dedicated group of individuals. Members should expect a lot more opportunities to get involved in great things in the upcoming year!

Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve you over the past two years.

**The 'Peanut Gallery' is a lighthearted term used to identify members who take an active interest in the business of SOLAR and attend Steering Committee meetings, but who do not have voting privileges.*

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Jeff Enterkin,
SOLAR Member

How long have you been a member of SOLAR?

I joined in 1995.

How did you learn of SOLAR in the first place?

From Leslie Cordova. She thought I would like going to the Crawl-a-Thon. I loved it. I'm ready to go again.

What are some outdoorsy activities you enjoy? Hiking, biking, kayaking, down hill skiing/racing, cross country skiing, backpacking, car camping, and bow hunting, just to name a few.

What has been your favorite trip/activity so far? Well, it wasn't a SOLAR trip, but it was with some SOLAR friends. I went on a guided trip to Belize for two weeks, including two days in Guatemala over the 2006 Christmas/New Year holidays. We did some hiking to Mayan ruins, caving, snorkeling, and even a half day of scuba diving.

What would your ideal trip be like? I love traveling and it doesn't matter where or when, as long as I'm having good times with family and/or friends.

Which classes have you taken through SOLAR? What class(es) do you wish were offered that are not currently? I've taken Rock Climbing, CPR, Search and Rescue, Land Navigation, Cross Country Skiing, Wilderness First Aid, Sea Kayaking, Scuba Diving, Beginning Backpacking, and Adventure Racing.

Tell us something about you that would surprise us! Well, when I was a kid growing up, and even in high school, I was very shy and quiet. I wouldn't say or do much. It's been a long road to break free from the shyness. Now trying to find/make time for my different activities is the problem. I still find myself being quiet at times, though.

Do you have any pets? Kids? Significant Other?
No pets, kids, or significant other.



Indiana Dunes State Park

Photos submitted by Jeff Enterkin



Keep the Shiawassee River in mind when seeking a local paddling adventure.

by Willi Guttman

Forty four canoes and kayaks set off from WaterWorks Park in Holly, Michigan on June 6 for the annual race and pleasure paddle on the Shiawassee River.

A severely overcast and dreary day really affected attendance this year. The morning racers escaped a downpour, but later in the afternoon pleasure paddlers got soaked by summer rain storms.

ABC new affiliate WJRT-TV Mid Michigan interviewed Doug Lanyk, a SOLAR member and VP of HeadWatersTrails, Inc.



The experienced 2 man canoe teams conquered the 7 miles of twists and turns along the Shiawassee River in 1 hr and 22 minutes. The solo kayaker class had a gentleman finish in 1 hr 20 minutes.

We asked SOLAR club members...
what important lessons have you learned through SOLAR?



Mike Malon

I was brought in to teach first aid to the spring backpacking class on their first practical to Waterloo Recreation Area. We had almost finished when someone came running into camp shouting, "A thunderstorm is on the way!" Students and instructors rushed for their tents as we headed out to our cars and into winds bringing branches out of the trees and blowing rain sideways as we struggled to the *apparent* safety of our autos. And yet, I would be struck by another car on the highway home as the wind blew across the expressway and spun that car into me. I should have stayed with the backpacking class.



Eric Braun

To drink, drink and drink some more!



Robin Varygas

I've learned that you can never carry enough water, and always carry TP!

Have a question to suggest? Contact the Ray Editor at SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org.



SOLAR is pleased to welcome the following new members to the club:

Anwar Gulati

Danny Hagen

Gary Jakobcic

Christopher Robertson

Jerry Robertson



Do you find yourself correcting the spelling and grammatical errors you find in brochures, on signs and in the newspaper? Well, then, the Ray Editor needs your help! We need a couple more Assistant Editors to polish up articles once a month. For more details, contact SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org.

New Class Offered Through SOLAR: Basics of Beginning Kayaking

by Bernadette Lois

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 Tevas/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/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.



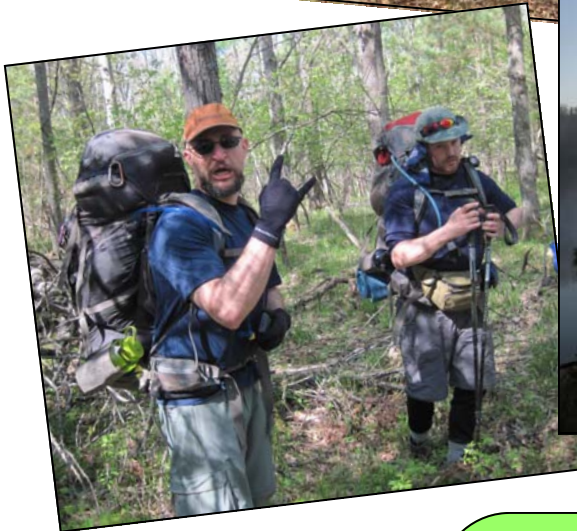
When: Five moonlight canoeing/kayaking trips will be offered this year. The next trip will be July 24; to see a [full schedule](#) visit the Files section of the Yahoo! Group, the [Meetup.com calendar](#) or click on the link in the Ray's calendar to view the flyer.

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.



Photos from the Spring Beginning Backpacking Course

Submitted by Ken Lemieux



Maybury Hike

Fourteen SOLARites (and 3 canine companions) hiked through Maybury State Park in late May. The group enjoyed fantastic weather, great conversation and catching up with Moe, Dave and Lucky DeFrance on their visit to Michigan.

Want to lead a hike with SOLAR? Contact our Activities Chairperson, Jennifer McWilliams at SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org.



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) 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.

Tom O.

NOTE: Text that is blue and underlined is a hyperlink to a flyer or article about this class/trip. Click to read more!

www.SolarOutdoors.org

MAY 2010 TRIP COORDINATOR DRAWING WINNER
CHUCK SMITH- SING-A-LONG AT THE ARK

SOLAR MEETING AND PROGRAM DATES

7/6	Tues	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm	Colony Hall	Allen Duncan	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
		Program- Summer Picnic and Gear Swap	Colony Hall	Debbie Zuchlewski	SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org
8/3	Tues	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm	Colony Hall	Allen Duncan	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
		Program-An Overview of Fall/Winter Educational Opportunities	Colony Hall	Debbie Zuchlewski	SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org
9/7	Tues	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm	Colony Hall	Allen Duncan	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
		Program – TBA	Colony Hall	Debbie Zuchlewski	SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org

ACTIVITIES

7/24	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	Proud Lake State Park	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
7/23-25	Wknd	Crazy Canoe Weekend	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
8/7-13	Multi	Backpacking Trip	Glacier National Park	Bill Lynch	blynch@mayne-mckenney.com
8/28	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	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	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	Proud Lake State Park	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
10/3-7	Multi	Adirondack Trip	Heart Lake near Lake Placid, New York	Don Wold	DWold12972@aol.com
10/16-17	Wknd	Backpacking Trip	Jordan River Pathway	Allen Duncan/ George Zapp	allenduncan@aggienetwork.com gzapp@comcast.net
10/23	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	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

7/15,17,24	Thurs, Sat	Wilderness First Aid	TBD	Mary Price	mathildet@sbcglobal.net
7/14,21,28 8/4	Wed	Basics of Beginning Kayaking	Eastwood Beach, Stony Creek Metro Park	Bernadette Lois	slavicgal@yahoo.com
8/21	Sat	Introduction to Geocaching	Kensington Metropark	Jeff McWilliams Clayton Lucey	jeff.mcwilliams@gmail.com clatmandu@yahoo.com
8/26, 9/2,9,11, 16,17-19, 23,30, 10/7-10	Thurs, Sat, Wknds	Fall Beginning Backpacking	Royal Oak, MI Northville, MI Pinckney, MI Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	Carol McCrie	cmccrie@sbcglobal.net
9/15, 25- 26, 10/15- 17	Weds, Wknds	Women in the Woods 2010 Workshop	Classroom-TBD Practicals- Proud Lake and Red River Gorge	Pam Riehl Szakal	pariehl@gmail.com
12/9,16, 18,1/6- 9,13,20, 27, 28-30	Thurs, Wknds	Basic Mountaineering and Safety Skills	TBD	Lou Szakal	everest2008@comcast.net

If you would like to plan/lead an activity for SOLAR, contact our Activities Chairperson, Jennifer McWilliams, at 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.

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. To receive a copy in the mail, please contact Mary Price at 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 as JPG files. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Tislerics at SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org.

STEERING COMMITTEE

President: Allen Duncan	Activities: Jennifer McWilliams	Membership: Mary Price
Vice President: Heather Hall	Bylaws: Ati Tislerics	Programs: Debbie Zuchlewski
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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 about 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 Allen Duncan at 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 or attend one of our monthly meetings.



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