

Mental meandering by SOLAR historian..... vol. 18 December 2018

Most every month we will dig into our archives and ponder on the past and present minutia of our club.....

I hope in the future to also be a bit of a document of record and comment on current event and perhaps give a historical context. Welcome to my mad mad world of run on sentences and mental meandering

SOLAR Ray in Retrograde 2011

Another review of the archived newsletters. (Edition - Trip - Why it matters) is the format I will review and report trips found in past Ray articles. If relevant pictures are found may include but most likely if you're interested in going or running an activity, this will give you leads enough for contacts and curiosity.....many authors are still in the club and active and open to talking about it over a beverage.....have fun out there......

January 2011

Make a new year resolution to look at the back editions of the clubs newsletter, the SOLAR Ray....just this one has indoor rock climbing, photo contest, invitation to try snowkiting, tying knots, square dancing.....also hear about a post-thanksgiving day hike (something we still do) as well as the reoccurring Chinese New Year Dinner (2011 was year of the Rabbit).....

February 2011

Plenty of standard SOLAR stuff, activities, photo contest, philanthropy, welcoming new members, picture of Snowkiting and Rope Safety Skills practice and advice for the love struck or adventurer that inspire us to get out with a quote that says, "You miss 100% of the shots that you don't take.".......





March 2011

BIG article on Backcountry Cross-country Skiing in Yellowstone, expedition style guided outfitter, lots of detail sounds like fun.....

Also an announcement for Square Dancing with SOLAR, we haven't done that in a long time, perhaps we could again – while you're thinking about it talk to Leslie Cordova on how to run a Hay Ride, very good activity at a metro park.....

April 2011

Several articles highlight that things change in SOLAR, we don't do as much winter camping (good article and pictures) but we still stair climb for the American Lung Association fundraiser as well as look for member to help the club as Steering Committee.....also see

classes/activities that haven't been offered in a while, Introduction to Making Outdoor Equipment, and others that have, Land Navigation and Moonlight Canoeing.

May 2011

A well rounded edition with lots of activities and this little bit, also look for other fun things like micro interviews and quotes throughout editions, like......

Words to Wander By

In wilderness I sense the miracle of life, and behind it our scientific accomplishments fade to trivia.

~ Charles A. Lindbergh

Thanks to Pam Esper for submitting this quotation!

Words to Wander By

The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem, it will avail us little to solve all others.

> -Theodore Roosevelt, Address to the Deep Waterway Convention, October 4, 1907

June 2011

GOBS of FAKE BLOOD – article on a Wilderness First Aid course – insightful on taking care, keeping focus and learning

Chain O Lakes State park – Indiana – 3 hours from Detroit – paddle, swim and hike "close" to Shipshewana and other stuff.....

Nice articles on hiking in the rain and why land navigation......

July 2011

Articles on Adventure Racing, Camping in Nordhouse Dunes (Lake Michigan Shore), Jordan River Valley (upper north west lower peninsula), Wilderness State Park (finger tip of the mitt) and Cuyahoga (Ohio) hiking and biking at the closest national park to us......

August 2011

Bruce Trail - Canada's oldest and longest footpath - trip description - geographically it ROCKS - fairly close in Ontario

Mountaineering out west – description of climbs in Washington, Mt Olympus, Mt Rainier – I'm not going to but cool to read about....

Activity / Trip advertisement and Tales - Fishing Lake Saint Clair, Hot Air Balloons, Metamora/Hadley camping trip

September 2011

Kayak Class – Local at Heavner Canoe Rental – insightful and opportunity to learn some new skills

You too can run a trip – comments on overcoming the fears of leading an event and have fun doing it....

As in most editions of the SOLAR Ray there may be member interviews, classes, recipes that add spice to our clubs life and could lead to other events.....

October 2011

Lake Hope State Park – Ohio – (4.5 hours travel) mountain biking and hiking – trip description sounds fun

Manistee River Trip - Michigan - multiple options - multiple groups - being flexible and finding each other

Activity / Trip advertisement – Green Timber / Shingle Mill Pathway backpack trip, Otter Creek Wilderness Backpacking, Explore the Zoo - you could organize from this info.....inspiration!

November 2011

Detroit - bike ride day in Detroit - organize event but inspiring and lots of similar rides available all summer

Green Timbers - weekend trip - Hiking Pigeon River area, northern Michigan - adventure on adventure - interesting folks

High Ropes course – several locally – good description of the fun

Finding SOLAR Friends – article on meeting in the great out of doors

Retrospective endorsement of skills gained from SOLAR - member tells tale of crewing on ship in San Juan Islands

Activity / Trip Highlights – Holiday Nights Green Field Village, Lake Ann Cross Country, Mackinac Island Cross Country - you could organize from this info.....

December 2011

Otter Creek Wilderness Area - West Virginia - Wonderful trip description of wet trails and unexpected snow

Wayne National Forest - Ohio - Near Marietta, Ohio River scenic trail and loops, rock outcropping and natural arches

EMW - enjoying Michigan winters class experience and description - inspiration to get out this winter