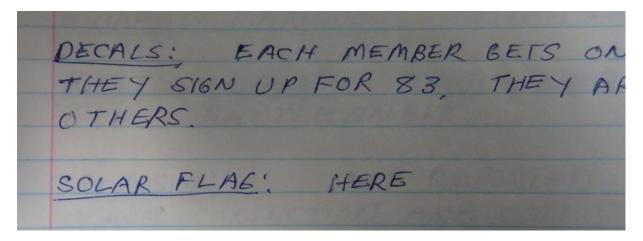


### Mental meandering by SOLAR historian

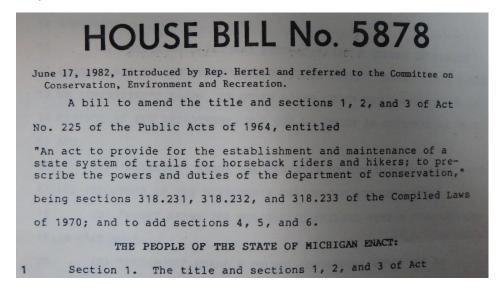
We will dig into our archives and ponder on the past and present minutia of our club.....Welcome to Mike's mad mad world of run on sentences and mental meandering ..... vol. 6, looking back to 1983.....

#### That Darn Decal

You may have heard the rumor that the Steering Committee is working on a new sticker or cling or decal, well they have been doing that for years it seems. In the hand written notes from 83 they were giving them away to new members, charging for others to have the privilege. At one time you could tell SOLAR cars not only from their roof racks, kayaks or canoes, skis or other equipment but even when we came in from the wild you could spot a member by the decal on the car or bumper. Well not many cars left rolling from 83, but rumor has it that the window decals are coming back so we can represent the pack again...... oh yea, I saw there was a SOLAR flag out there, I think there still is, check with the equipment manager to see if you can take it out and share a photo of it around the world in your travels......



### I'm just a Bill



Found a nice submission to a 1980's SOLAR Ray about budget cut backs and getting the House Bill No 5878 passed to establish and maintain trail in Michigan. This was to continue funding and clarify and add sections to a 1970 bill. Essentially it tells us that funding is not forever and though as a state we have supported recreation and hunting in our woods and on our

streams, it is not guaranteed. It is a good reminder as to why we have to watch and be knowledgeable about our legislator's activities.

This is a rehash of what is in the attached picture but a good point the older article is more eloquent ..... end funding, trees fall, trails and markers deteriorate, we lose a resource and tourism and recreation are lost.

# WHY IS THIS BILL NECESSARY?

The State of Michigan has a developed pathway system which includes 73 hiking trails and 36 cross-country ski trails, totalling 818 miles in State forest lands. Until now, State funds were available for the maintenance of these trails.

Budget cutbacks in the Department of Natural Resources have eliminated funding for non-motorized trail maintenance. The Forest Management Division, which is responsible for trails, had their budget reduced from \$1.6 million in 1981 to \$245,000 in 1982. There is no money available for trail maintenance.

Unmaintained trails become obliterated as timber falls across, brush grows up and markers disappear. Trails in poor condition are hazardous. The State cannot continue to promote their use through publicity and map distribution and must take down the markers to avoid liability problems. The trails are closed.

Occasionally on Meet Up or our other social media we see calls for trail clean up or local or state issues and activism. Sometime simple support is all it takes to convince our representative's direction and vote.

IF you hear about something that would resonate with the club, let SOLAR know, this is why we have websites, yahoo, meet up and more.....if you can't get active outdoors you can still be active for the outdoors.....

#### 

I found out that SOLAR had a HOT LINE, like the red phone in Commissioner Gordon's office to call the Batman. It was an answering machine that would help spread the word like a verbal newsletter. Just under the Steering Committee's meeting minutes was Treasurer Report and SOLAR RAY. I will comment on Treasurer Report in the next segment but the RAY notes that "printing" was progressing from stencil machine to photo copying. Today, NOW we have already transitioned out of that single source compiled paper format to a digital single source compiled format, for the future we hope to advance past the HOT LINE, Single Source to a multi contributor stream of news, photos, commentary and stories to help keep us all informed and connected.

Please contribute stories and as we work toward the future we will braid and weave them into our story and inspiration.

## SOLAR HOT LINE

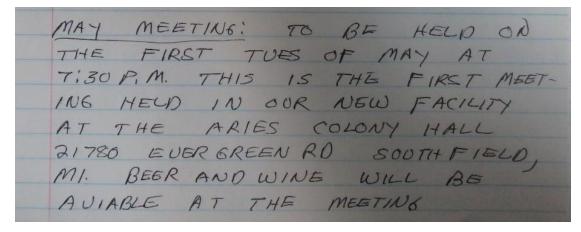
Heated discussion on this one, but it was decided to give it another chance since it didn't originally get used like we had hoped. It will be moved to John Beers residence for trip announcements. John also has a recorder on his regular phone line and is willing to take messages on that and keep the hot line up to date (or else!) This phone will be like a-verbal newsletter. It was officially voted on with only (1) opposed.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

\$2,878-\$1600 in savings. Big cash flow expected with new classes starting. Hall rate will stay the same because we are such good, neat and clean customers. We owe for Oct, Nov, Dec months and have been covering about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the costs via the refreshments

SOLAR RAY- new format ideas discussed to eliminate the good old Gestetner stencil machine. Photo copying is an idea and A. DeBella came with a few prices and will report next meeting with a couple more and a specific recommendation.

I found hand written meeting notes of the first meeting to be held May 1983 at Aries Colony Hall in Southfield. I also found out that beer and wine would be available at the meeting, that is a nice option but now a days not such a draw with driving home after.....but I digress.



I also found a newer mailing announcing our move to our current location from 2015





Now I don't want you to get the idea we are moving again but I do want you to think about moving what you've got. St Paul's Presbyterian is a great location that offers many options and resources, classrooms, meeting spaces ample parking. I hope to use that lot for a future camper rally but only time will tell. If you have an idea remember the Steering Committee is here to help as was their guidance in moving us to the current and every location we have been at.

If you feel like you could contribute, get a move on and step on up and help them out, there are always suggestions and ways to help.

Another listing of past event to inspire (remember you help make it happen)

# UP AND COMING EVENTS February 3 Maybury Night Ski 5-6 EMW Pidgeon River Practical 7 Steering Committee 9 1st Survival Class 12 VASA VASA VASA 14 General Meeting 15 1st Exercise class 16 Survival Class 19 Point Peelee Day XC trip 21 RAY DEADLINE 22 Exercise class 23 Survival Class 26-27 Wilderness State Park #2 12 Survival Class March 4-6 Survival Practical 7 Steering Committee 12 Square Dance 14 General Meeting 15 1st Backpacking Class 16 1st Wilderness First Aid Class 20 Wabos Loppett-Sault St. Marie, Ont. 21 RAY DEADLINE 22 Backpack Class 23 Wilderness First Aid Class 25 Restaurant Evening-Old Fish Market, Windsor 29 Backpack Class 30 Wilderness First Aid