

THE RAY

THE SCHOOL FOR OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE AND RECREATION

Upcoming Event

SOLAR Holiday Party

It's time to start thinking about the holidays and the Great SOLAR Holiday Party is just around the corner.

Each year as part of our SOLAR Holiday Party, club members can bring a voluntary "admission" to the grand event in the form of a charitable donation. These donations are collected and offered in the name of the club to needful organizations in and around our community.

For 1995 SOLAR is working with the SARAH FISCHER HOME in Farmington Hills. This organization provides safe shelter for abused children at ages ranging from 4 yrs. to 17 yrs.

This year, please consider providing a new unwrapped toy or gift for a child in the aforementioned age groups. All gifts are welcome regardless of size or cost. If you are willing, we are hoping to provide 14 Medium sized SOLAR TEDDY BEARS. Please contact Jim Young at (810) 731-2504 if you wish to donate a BEAR. Please bring your gifts for these children to the SOLAR Party on Tuesday December 5th as your "admission" to the festivities. Hope to see you there. P.S. There will be pizza, pop and music at the party!



Upcoming Class

V-1 Skating Ski Class

It's December and the snow is flying. Time to strap on those X-C skis and hit the trails. Better yet, sign up for the advanced X-C ski class and learn how to V-1 skate.

Move up to the next level and understand for yourself what the skating craze is all about. Go farther and farther with just a little more effort than diagonal striding. If you have "kicked and stucked" and now you want to "stride and glide", then this is your chance. Don't miss it!

Only \$25, includes two great books on ski preparation and ski skating. This is a two part class held on the 9th of December (ski preparation) and the 21st of January (on-snow clinic).

For more details please refer to the November issue of the RAY, or contact head snow hound, Michael Mannebach at (810) 682-3955. See you on the trails!!

Upcoming Event

Caroling, Caroling!!!

Those who are musically inclined and would like to bring some cheer during the holidays are invited to come caroling at two nursing homes on December 9, 1995.

First we'll go to Botsford Continued Care at 21450 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills (810) 477-7400. We'll meet at the front desk at 3:00 p.m. and sing there until 4:30 p.m. Sheet music will be provided.

We'll leave Botsford and go to Presbyterian Village on 7 mile road in Redford (313) 531-6874 by 5:00 p.m. where we'll sing until 6:30 p.m.

After that we'll have a pot-luck dinner (bring something yummy!) at Tom Dunn's home at 19654 Ingram, Livonia (810) 471-9163. Maps to all three locations will be available at the December meeting. For more information, please call Margaret Martin at (313) 721-2821 or (313) 722-7620(wk).

Upcoming Class

Cross-Country Ski Class

Want to learn the basics of traditional diagonal stride cross-country skiing? Then come to the December SOLAR membership meeting where interest sign ups will be taken to determine if enough people are interested to hold a class this winter.

Upcoming Class**Enjoy Winter Without Leaving the State!!!**

So you think backpacking is fun and you're looking for some adventure this winter. Then take the "Enjoy Michigan Winters Class". You can enhance your skills to take on winter journeys and expand 3-season backpacking into a year-round activity. Such techniques as keeping warm and dry in cold temperatures, cross-country skiing with a backpack, and building snow shelters will be taught.

The cost of the class will probably be about \$85 and you must have taken the backpacking class. The dates for the classes are Wednesdays in January (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st). The dates for the class practical trips will be announced at the December Membership Meeting. If you can't beat the Michigan Winter, learn how to enjoy it!!! For further information call Dave Jones at (810) 477-8605.

Upcoming Event**Wilderness State Park Ski Weekend**

Join fellow SOLARites for a cross-country ski weekend at Wilderness State Park on January 5-7, 1996. There is a large 24-person rustic drive-to cabin, and a 7-person rustic ski-in cabin reserved for the weekend.

The cost of the trip is \$12 for the ski-in cabin and \$10 for the large drive-to cabin. The park is very scenic and has some great trails to ski. The traditional pot-luck dinner will be held on Saturday evening. For further information about the large cabin, contact Carol Dunn at (313) 561-1653. For further information about the ski-in cabin, contact Mike Banks at (313) 425-4169.

Upcoming Event**Blue Mountain Ski Trip**

On the weekend of January 26-28, 1996, join fellow SOLARites in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada for the Annual Blue Mountain Ski Trip. Blue Mountain, which is about 5 hours from Detroit, is known for its great downhill skiing. In addition, there are also some great Cross-Country ski trails in the area. Lodging will be chalet or suite style with full kitchens for Friday and Saturday nights. The traditional SOLAR pot-luck will be held on Saturday evening.

The cost is not set yet but will probably be around \$80 U.S. which includes the lodging. Ski rental and lift tickets are extra. Half the cost will be due at the December SOLAR General Membership Meeting; the balance will be due at the January meeting. For further information contact Kathie Kirby at (313) 953-9095 or Julia Gordon at (810) 615-7559.

Upcoming Event**The VASA is Coming!**

What is VASA, you ask? It is only one of THE important cross-country ski races in Michigan, drawing racers from as far away as Alaska. It is held in Traverse City. When is it? February 10, 1996 is the race day.

What does SOLAR have to do with it? WE ALL GO! A few SOLARites race in the "big one", 47K, while others ski the 27K and 12K races. We ski for fun, comradery, and to test our own skiing abilities.

This year the VASA is even holding shorter distance events for younger (children) skiers. There is something for everyone to do; even if you don't ski you can cheer on the SOLAR racers.

The SOLAR trip: We will go up to Days Inn of Traverse City on Friday, February, 9th. Rise and shine Saturday for the race or to cheer our skiers on. After the race, relax at the Days Inn pool and hot tub. Evening of Saturday we go out for food (of course what SOLAR event is without food?!). After that, who knows? Dancing, swapping stories of the day, Karaoke, etc.

On Sunday, we can get together for a brunch before heading back home. The cost of the trip is \$65 for two nights' lodging in skier suites and the Saturday dinner. Other meals, such as the Sunday brunch, are on your own. (Alcoholic beverages not included in the cost of the Saturday dinner). For more information, call Karen Sinclair-Smith (810) 682-3955. Full payment due in January. Sign ups will be taken seriously if you make a deposit of \$30 to SOLAR at the December meeting.

Upcoming Event**Caving in Kentucky with "Cordova the Barbarian"!**

It doesn't have quite the same ring as "Cohen The Barbarian"! Anyway, the annual Crawl-A-Thon is held January 26-28, 1996 at Carter Caves, Kentucky.

The cost is \$15 which includes 2 days of guided caving and a free T-shirt. Lodging is approximately \$40 per person for 2 nights. The group will arrive Friday night and stay at Carter Caves Lodge in Olive Hill, Kentucky. This is a 7-hour drive from Detroit. For further information on the trip plan, contact Leslie "Cordova the Barbarian" at (810) 547-5628.

EDITORIAL NOTE FROM MIKE BANKS: At a recent Steering Committee meeting, Steve Gardner mentioned that trip leaders need to write articles to promote the trips they were leading. Steve didn't mention any names, but kept staring at me as though his address had something to do with the fact that I had never written an article on any trip that I had lead. Therefore, I am writing the following in spite of Steve's look (or any threats I found on my voice mail):

Upcoming Event **Wabos Loppet What???**

Good question! Wabos is a dot (on some obscure maps) along the Algoma Central Railway, north of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. A loppet is a Scandinavian term meaning a long ski trek. Hence the Wabos Loppet is a 27 kilometer noncompetitive ski event

The "Loppet" is on Saturday March 10, 1996. The "Snow Train" will drop us off at Wabos. It's then just an "easy" 27 km. ski back to Stokley Creek Resort and an awaiting barbeque. This event will take you through the beautiful winter scenery of the Algoma Highlands. It is not an area nor an event to be forgotten.

Space is limited to the first 12 to put down deposits of \$65. The total cost is \$130 (barring any major shifts in the value of either country's currencies). This will include entry fee, 2 nights lodging, train ride, Friday night spaghetti dinner, Saturday's barbeque, and more.

Deposits will be taken at the December General Membership Meeting (note: the cost may increase for late-comers so sign up early!) For further information contact me, Mike Banks, at (313) 425-4189.

A Successful Photo Contest

SOLAR members sure can take some great photos! This years contest had twice as many entries as last year and they were all prize winners! What better way to recap a year of SOLAR fun and adventure but in a collection of photos.

Members voted on their favorites in the following four categories:

* **Most Humorous** 1st place - Tom Dunn, 2nd place - Cyndi Erickson, 3rd place - Jim Gilfix, 4th place - Matthew Dalton (It was humorous to note that Carol Dunn and Tom Dunn were the subjects of most of the humorous photos!)

* **Most Scenic** - 1st place - Ror Quinn, 2nd place - Doug Lanyk, 3rd place - Nancy Reutz, 4th place - Jim Gilfix.

* **Best People** - 1st place - Nancy Reutz, 2nd place - Jim Gilfix, 3rd place - Mike Malon, 4th place - Jim Gilfix.

* **Best Wildlife** - 1st place - Matthew Dalton, 2nd place - Nancy Reutz, 3rd place - Matthew Dalton, 4th place - Matthew Dalton.

So all you camera buffs, get out there and start shooting for next years contest! See you there!

The SOLAR Library Opens!

Beginning February 1, 1996: The SOLAR Library will be open! The Library will be a resource for the members to draw on. The goal is to provide members with books, video and audio tapes, maps, photos and slides, magazines, pamphlets, resources, etc., on subjects of use and interest to the SOLAR membership. Just think of this invaluable resource at your fingertips when you start planning your next adventure!

The library will operate as follows: You'll check with the librarian to see what materials/resources are available for your trip, class, etc. Then, put in your request and pick up same at the next general membership meeting. Whatever you take out is due back the following month.

Now, here's what we need from you! Your extra books, video and audio tapes, maps, photos and slides, magazines, pamphlets, etc. The library is operating strictly on donations. So, if you have any outdoor resource information you can part with, call John Gulas at (810) 574-0243.

Review

O-I-SHI DeShita!!! (It Was Delicious!)

On November 3, 14 SOLARites invaded a new frontier (at least for some of us); Akasaka Japanese restaurant in Livonia. Many discovered the joys of sushi (with some instruction by Gene Cordova, who also ate anyone's leftovers), and others learned how to pronounce words like tonkatsu and wasabe.

Even the experienced Japanese cuisine gourmet was amazed when several of the meals for two appeared from the kitchen in a boat that was bigger than a Texas Steak. Everyone handled their chopsticks with ease, so maybe they had ventured out before to the exotic land of Asian cuisines

So, what frontier are we exploring next? Any ideas, call Leslie Cordova at (810) 547-5626 to set a date on the SOLAR Calendar!

Wanted:

Looking for used downhill ski boots and bindings. Also looking for used mountain bike. Contact Joan Ryan at (810) 573-4831.

Review

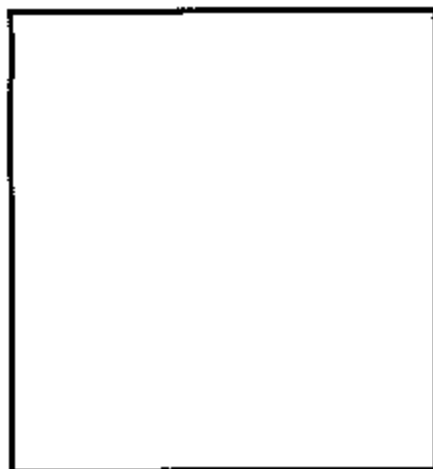
November at Nordhouse

by Steve Gardner

Friday, November 10, found the SOLAR Club headed to the West Coast (of Michigan) for a weekend of camping and hiking.

I arrived at the park at about 6:30 p.m. in the rain. There were no signs of people except for Mike Foggarty's car parked by the trailhead. Not being the sort to start off a trip by sliding down an unseen sand dune, I decided to set up camp in the campground and get a fresh start in the morning.

When I first poked my head out of the tent in the morning, this is what I saw:



The Lake Michigan campground at Nordhouse Dunes, on the morning of 11 November, 1995.

There was a thick blanket of snow in the camp, and it was still falling. It was most impressive. After a hurried breakfast (cod) and an even more hurried packing up (it helps to keep warm if you hurry), I drove back to the trailhead hoisted pack and headed into the Dunes.

The wind off the lake was roaring. In all my years of coming to this park, this was the stiffest wind I've ever

encountered. It made me grateful for the stout fleece and weather gear I was wearing. At times it felt as though the wind would pick me up as just so much snow, to be blown around through the hardwood forest, to be plastered against a tree and forgotten until spring time. Ever see snow falling up? As the wind crested the dune it just kept going carrying the snow with it. Later we would notice an interesting phenomenon. There was no snow on the ground within about 300 yards from the lake.

A couple of miles in, I came to the place I had planned to set up camp. It was the same spot I had used last year, between the fore dune and the main dune, open to the northwest, but closed in on the other three sides. A convenient tree offered to hold up one corner of my parawing, and I'd stake out the others to form a sort of lean-to. But not this time. The combination of the heavy winds and loose sand meant that this site was unsuitable for the parawing. I just couldn't get the stakes to hold.

After about half an hour of futile attempts, I sat down to weigh my options. A prime consideration at this park is the need for water. Many otherwise fine camps must be passed over unless you bring sufficient water in with you. I had planned to filter, so my options were limited to camping along Lake Michigan or at Nordhouse Lake which is inland a ways and I didn't feel like camping there, so I decided to hike back along the beach to look for a site.

At first glance, it looked to be perfect. Closed to the northwest, there was only a slight swirl of wind. The ground was level and open. Enough trees around ensured an easy rigging of the parawing. I was just about to drop pack when I noticed the little plant with that all too familiar "three leaves and red stems" pattern we've all come to know and love as Polson Ivy. It was

everywhere. I couldn't believe it was still so healthy in this climate. Okay, two strikes and I'm headed back to the campground. This just turned into a car camping weekend.

After setting up camp, I made a tour of the campground. Mike's car was still down by the trailhead, so I had to assume he was still out on the dunes. At this time, the only other people around were Doug Lanyk and Damien who were just setting up their camp. We visited for a while and had just decided to drive into town for breakfast when Jim pulled up in his car to say good morning and good bye. As the snow was now quite deep, he declared the weather "NUTS" and set off to break camp and head for home.

Doug, Damien, and I spent the rest of the day driving around the area taking pictures of snowy trees and lighthouses before heading back to camp. We went down to the trailhead and Mike's car was gone. We never even saw him all weekend. I met Ron Quinn and Linda Rosa in the campground and they shared hot chocolate with me before we all retired to the tents.

I woke up to find the tent full of light. Feeling that I couldn't have possibly overslept, I poked my head out the tent door to find the sky clearing and the moon shining down on the snow, making the whole forest look like magic; a land apart from the rest of the world, filled with its own silent music. I was compelled to get dressed and take a walk. I just wish there had been some way to capture that scene on film.

The park ended up getting about six to eight inches of snow. In the morning we all met for a walk on the beach before heading to breakfast in Scottsville and on to home having spent another unique weekend in November at Nordhouse.

Review

The Backpacking Practical

by John Gulas

It was easy to tell the difference between the instructors and the students in this practical. Seven of the eight instructors arrived in southern Ohio Thursday night, whereas a majority of the students arrived between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Obviously the instructors' enjoyment of backpacking was a great excuse for us to leave town early.

Anyway, by the time we hit the trails Friday morning, a small little sprinkle was beginning to stir. However, that small sprinkle quickly developed into a consistent downpour which drenched pack and person alike. For those students that hiked that afternoon, it was a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a stroll in the rain; even though the uphill were pretty steep, and the mud made the terrain very slippery. Well that wasn't too bad, I guess it could have been worse. Whoops, I forgot half of the group had to hike through thick thorn covered trails that were extremely painful.

Well in spite of those minor setbacks, both of the groups made camp after six mile hikes. The students that arrived during the day did the trails and caught up with their respective groups of instructors. (Oops!!) They had all made it into the two camps that night. (Ouch!!!) Well, would you believe they were all accounted for??? OK, OK we had a group that was misplaced. We knew they were in the park and that they were someplace on the trail. The problem was they were not with us.

So that night we launched some searches for the infamous Group 4. Since nobody (or body) was found, more searches were carried out all day Saturday. Eventually they would



be found that afternoon, or perhaps they found everyone else? Anyway, we did learn the story of their whereabouts. Apparently a ranger had told them to take a certain trail that would take them into the campground. Well, obviously the one they took did not bring them into our campground. The moral to this story, is to always double check the map no matter who gives you directions

All in all the rest of the weekend was very nice. The weather cleared up and the colors were surprisingly very good. The twenty-eight students did very well upon some very strenuous trails. The standard bonfires, back massages, and euchre games dominated the evenings entertainment.

During the day the entertainment was a little different. Perhaps it was just me, but I had to deal with students abandoning me at lunch (ahem...Group 5) or those that tied me up (ahem...Group 1), or even people sabotaging my pack with rocks!!! DARN KIDS!!!

Finally I want to make a final thank-you to Carol who had to deal with extraordinary circumstances this year. Because of a recent ankle injury, she was unable to hike the trails with us. But as always, she went out of her way to see that everyone had a safe, educational experience for there first real time in the wilderness.

We Want Your Body!!!

That's right, we want your body, or anybody who might be willing able and ready to lead a SOLAR class, trip or activity. SOLAR members look forward to a large variety of natural and unnatural activities during the course of any month. If our calendar of classes and activities is going to continue to be on the cutting edge of interest and excitement we need interesting and exciting people to plan and lead these functions.

All activities are announced during the information segment of the monthly meeting. People leading these activities should be available to give information such as times, dates, fees and details concerning the particular event. Any person may lead an activity of their choosing. To do so, please contact Leslie Cordova, the current activities chairperson for specific details for planning your event.

Please look forward to some of the following activities: monthly RATTLESNAKE camping and rock climbing weekends during the summer months; caving in the southern United States; backpacking trips both local and out of state; cross-country skiing; downhill skiing; mountain biking; nature identification seminars; canoe trips; walleyball; whitewater rafting; rollerblading; and many many more!

Cozy as a squirrel, not so taxing after all

Reprinted with minor editorial changes from the October 22, 1995 Oakland Press with permission from the author and SOLAR member Jonathan Schecter

Last weekend I curled up in the woods cozy as a squirrel with an agent of the Internal Revenue Service. Now that I have your undivided attention, and my editor's attention as well, let me clarify a bit. I'm talking, survival. I'm talking shelter. I'm talking adapting to the conditions around you. Cyndi, the IRS agent, was my partner in a survival exercise at a state recreation area. When you camp in wet, cold Michigan woods minus a tent and minus a sleeping bag you only need to look to the squirrels for advice.

The three instructors leading the weekend course titled Earth Living Workshop Patrick Munson, Andy Bursser and SOLAR member Lester Mok, are all disciples of Tom Brown. Tom Brown is a highly skilled naturalist, survivalist and outdoors person who spent his youth learning wilderness survival from "Grandfather", an Apache elder with great love and knowledge of the earth. And let me add Brown is not a gun-toting rhetoric-chanting survivalist. Brown looks to nature and to the earth for quiet answers to the essential skills of humankind. He knows how to survive. (Tom Brown field guides for survival are available at local bookstores.) I have never met Tom Brown and it is not likely I ever will. But after practicing what he preached on that damp windy night I feel I know that man well and I certainly know myself better than before. Thank you Tom Brown Jr.

Tents are fine, down sleeping bags are great and waterproof matches are a blessing. But Brown's philosophy embraces challenge and make a tough situation a grand occasion.

Looking for answers to being on your own in the wilds is not always easy in a society that puts so much value on mechanical contraptions, electronics and synthetic fibers. When it comes to keeping warm at night follow the rules of nature: think small shelter, thin big insulation and learn from the squirrels.

Insulation was the key to warmth. (The IRS agent was optional.) Builders know it, homeowners know it, hunters with numb feet know it and moms dressing kids for rural bus stops know it. "Put another sweater on and you won't be so cold". And although squirrels may not know that they know it, they know it too. Insulate! We left the tents at base camp, slashed away our sleeping bags and constructed our "squirrel's nests", following the teachings of Brown, the guidance of our instructors and the blueprints of the squirrels. The shelters are termed, most appropriately, debris huts. Crumbled leaves, twigs even dirt.

I will not forget the slightly accented words of Lester Mok (my instructor) as Cyndi and I labored away gathering armfuls of leaves and branches. "A debris hut is never done." And it was not until night fell and the misty rain began that we squeezed into our combination tent-

sleeping bag constructed of leaves that I fully came to realize what that phrase meant. The debris hut is really nothing more than a well-constructed contraption of thick layers of leaves - insulating leaves - held together by a lattice work of branches, a few supporting poles, gravity and prayer. "Please wind - don't blow any more leaves away." I thought back to the phrase "a debris hut is never done" and quickly reached for another armful of dry leaves we had cached in our debris hut vestibule. With the leaves packed around cold spots I quickly dozed back to sleep grateful for squirrel ingenuity. Steady rain soaked the woods and the outer layers of the 3-foot thick shelter. I did not care. I was dry. I was warm.

To be honest there wasn't much room to move a muscle. A touch of claustrophobia was relieved by poking a slanted hole through the roof. Something crawled into my shirt. Couldn't move to get it out. And I must confess it wasn't exactly the best night's sleep I ever had. But I learned that the most important survival tool you have is not something you buy from Cabela's, REI or Gander Mountain, but it's your mind. And I learned that it's not always a disaster being close to an agent of the Internal Revenue Service, especially on a wet cold autumn night.



SOLAR Diver Weds

On Sunday, August 20, Joan Sharon Hettinger (a past president of SOLAR) was married to a fellow scuba diver, Rick Ryan. The newlyweds began their wedding day with an early morning scuba dive off the Boardwalk of St. Clair where they met exactly 4 years ago. Later that afternoon, they exchanged their personally written vows. A celebration followed at a local restaurant along the river, keeping with the aquatic theme.

The couple have to abide by an in-city residence ruling and reside in Warren. Their new address and telephone number are:

Joan Sharon & Rick W. Ryan
29531 Westbrook Avenue
Warren, Michigan 48092-5428
(810) 57DIVE1

Bye Ya'!!!

Julie Stollgrosz got a great new job and moved to Kentucky. Her new address is: **Julie Stollgrosz**
1108 Mallard Creek Rd.
Louisville, KY 40207
(502) 895-5396

We Moved to Brazil!

A letter from June Legarski McCalm

After my July 1, 1995 wedding to Andy McCalm (another SOLAR member) our life took a big change. We have moved to Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Since moving here in September we have ventured out to find out what activities are available. We headed for the mountains and found beautiful waterfalls and some great areas for mountain biking.

You just have to watch out for the local hazards - huge spider monkeys that throw bananas at you and pythons (you can really do a number on your tire when you run over one!)

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

December

- 5 Tuesday** General Membership Meeting and Annual Holiday Party, Colony Hall, Southfield, 7:30 PM, Steve Gardner (810) 547-4988
- 9 Saturday** V-1 Skate Cross Country Ski Class
Michael Mannebach (810) 682-3955
- 9 Saturday** Christmas Caroling/Pot Luck Farmington Hills/Redford, Margaret Martin (313) 721-2821

January

- 2 Tuesday** General Membership Meeting, Colony Hall, Southfield, 7:30 PM, Steve Gardner (810) 547-4988
- Every Wednesday** Enjoy Michigan Winters Class, location TBD, Dave Jones (810) 477-8605
- 5-7 Weekend** X-Country Ski/Cabin Weekend, Wilderness State Park, Mike Banks (313) 425-4169
- 21 Sunday** V-1 Skate X-Country Ski Clinic, Forbush Corners, Michael Mannebach (810) 682-3955
- 26-28 Weekend** **Crawlathon Caving Trip, Olive Hill, Kentucky, Leslie Cordova (810) 547-5626
- 26-28 Weekend** Blue Mountain Downhill Skiing, Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, Kathie Kirby (313) 953-9095

February

- 9-11 Weekend** VASA X-Country Ski Race, Traverse City, Karen Sinclair-Smith (810) 682-3955

March

- 15-17 Weekend** Wabos Loppet, Sault St. Marie, Ontario, Canada
Mike Banks (313) 425-4169

Roll at the Dome - Inline skating at the Pontiac Silverdome. For times and schedules, contact Doug Lanyk at (810) 634-4551.

Wallyball - Every Monday at Bailey Rec. Center, Westland. Contact Margaret Martin (313) 721-2821 (h) or (313) 722-7620 (w).

** Denotes a Non-SOLAR activity, on the calendar for informational purposes only. SOLAR will not be held responsible for this activity.

* SOLAR has a "No Refund" policy. However, if you are unable to attend an activity, you can "sell your spot" to another club member.

* If you would like to help plan and/or lead a SOLAR trip or activity, contact Leslie Cordova at (810) 547-5626.

The beaches are great and many areas have surfing comparable to California. We're trying to find places to go canoeing but you have a different type of local hazard then - piranhas!

If any SOLAR member would like to write, call or visit, our address is: Rua Prof. Alexandre Correia 321, Apto. 81 8o andar, Edificio Verona, do Condominio Villa Monteverde, Bairro Jardim Vitorio Regia, Sao Paulo - SP - Brasil CEP 05657 - 230. Phone: 011-55-11-844-4334. All letters will be answered. Also, letters can be addressed to us c/o my parents at: 477 Cleophus, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146. My parents Fed. Ex. us at least once a month.

About the Ray

The Ray is a monthly publication of the SOLAR Club and is provided free of charge to the current dues paid members. For those members who move outside of a 200 mile radius of the Detroit Area and would like to continue receiving The Ray, a \$5.00 annual subscription fee will be charged to cover mailing costs.

DEADLINE for The Ray is the second Friday after the general meeting for the following month's edition. Contributions in the form of comments, trip reports, recipes, photos or original articles are welcome. Send all contributions to: Cindy Harrison-Felix, SOLAR Ray Editor, 780 Central, Inkster, MI 48141 or call Cindy at (313) 722-3994.

Meeting Location

The purpose of the SOLAR Club is to promote and advance interest in the outdoors through information and participation. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Colony Hall, located at 21780 Evergreen Rd. in Southfield, between 8 & 9 Mile Roads at 7:30 PM SHARP. Membership dues are \$30 individual annually, or \$100 individual lifetime.

STEERING COMMITTEE

President	Steve Gardner / (810) 547-4998
Vice-President	Tom Dunn / (313) 494-4212
Secretary	Mike Banks / (313) 425-4169
Treasurer	Cyndi Erickson / (313) 397-8240
Activities	Leslie Cordova / (810) 547-5626
Membership	Sharon Stanek / (313) 565-8671
Equipment	Mike Felix / (313) 722-3994
Bylaws	Marie Crowl / (810) 471-7444
Education	Jim Young / (810) 726-8253
SOLAR Ray	Cindy Harrison-Felix / (313) 722-3994
Historian	John Gulas / (810) 574-0243
Programs	Margaret Marin / (313) 721-2821
At Large	Cindy Harrison-Felix / (313) 722-3994
Bob Westbrook / (810) 356-3627	Joan Westbrook / (810) 356-3627
Mo DeFrance / 229-8283	Larry Martin / 591-3856
Bill Halvargis / 663-1911	Al Fylak / 852-7514
Joan Hettinger / (810) 377-2377	

If you would like to assist with any of the above positions, call the appropriate committee chairperson



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