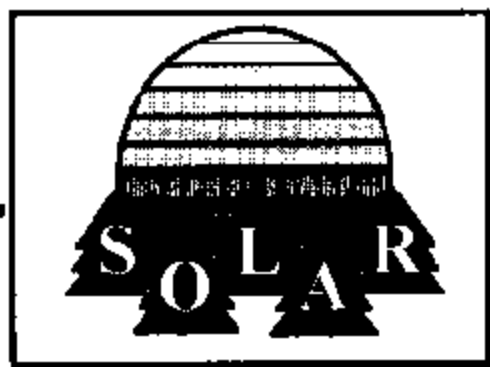


# The SOLAR Day

THE SCHOOL FOR OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE AND RECREATION



## Review

### NCT Battle Creek Linear Parkway

By Marco Scarpetta

On Sunday, July 21, Doug Lanyk, Linda Harner and I met in Battle Creek to roller-blade our way across the city on the Linear Parkway.

It was a classic SOLAR outing, involving a road rally just to find the thing in the first place. This was followed by a great downhill section to start the trail and get us going. Unfortunately, it ended with a sharp turn at the bottom, so Doug and I bailed out with spectacular crashes, while Linda held on and burst out laughing. We wiped the dirt off and continued.

The three of us lost our way once into town due to poor trail markings. After that, we split up to do either the short (Linda and Marco) or long loops (Doug), and each lost their way again.

The post-blading festivities involved eating, of course (what else?). Doug found a decent Italian restaurant for us to rest, replenish and revitalize ourselves.

All in all, it was worth it to knock off what counts as 11 miles of North Country Trail (we actually went 14 or 17 miles). Thanks, Doug, for putting on a good show!

## Hey!

THINGS ARE MOVING RIGHT ALONG IN SOLAR'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL EFFORT. BUT WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING. IF YOU DO ANY TRIPS ON OR PARALLELING THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL, BE CERTAIN TO LET THE SECTION LEADER KNOW SO THAT YOUR EFFORTS CAN BE LOGGED AND YOU GET PROPER CREDIT.

## NCT Effort Update

With the completion of portions of the Jordan River Pathway, SOLAR has completed 198 miles of the North Country Trail in Michigan.

**Miles Completed**

**198**

**Miles to Go**

**674**

## Section Coordinators

**Southern L.P. (113)**

Marco Scarpetta (313) 823-8564

**Central L.P. (53)**

Mike Banks (313) 425-4169

**Northern L.P. (9)**

Leslie Cordova (810) 547-5626

**Eastern U.P. (3)**

Steve Gardner (810) 547-4998

**Central U.P.**

Carol McOrrie (810) 229-5232

**Western U.P. (20)**

Bob Graham (313) 453-7313

## Third Annual Solar Photo Contest

Hey, Photobugs! At the November meeting we will be voting on the best picture from the last year at the third annual Solar Photo Contest. So, start looking through your great shots of animals, people and scenery or try to take the funniest picture!

For those of you who are photo-snappers, pick your best scenic, people, animal or humorous picture and make an enlargement that is at least 5" x 7" wide. Pictures should have been taken between September 15, 1995 and November 5, 1996. Matte it on matte board or put it in a frame and bring it to the November meeting. Voting will begin promptly at 7:40 so be there promptly at 7:30 to register your pictures. Put your name on the back of the picture, not the front. You may register up to 6 pictures.

If you are not a photographer, help out by doing silly, cute or funny things when a photographer is around so that you can be part of the contest, too.

As a special feature for the 20th anniversary, please bring a few memorable pictures of club events or activities from years past. We'll have a special table where people can peruse through them. Anyone able to donate a copy of those memorable pictures to the Solar library/archive, please make sure there is a date on the picture, location, and all people are clearly identified.

This will be a great contest, see you in November!

## People

Congratulations to Marie Crow and Steve Gardner on the announcement of their marriage! A full Victorian-Highlander wedding ceremony is planned for June 21, 1997.

Mimi Gendreau and Eric Noyes became engaged on the slopes of Noyes Mountain in Alaska on July 29, 1996 (the mountain is named for Eric's father, Brig. Gen. John R. Noyes). Congratulations!

Jeff Zabol has a new address and phone number.

Jeff Zabol  
23806 Middlebelt Road, # 2  
Farmington Hills, MI  
48331

(810) 426-7083

## SOLAR Club Hotline Service

The SOLAR Club has instituted a new Voice Mail hot-line number to help in getting the word out about our organization. This new service will allow us to keep a constant phone number on our mailings and brochure information and give us a central common "Mail Box" for retrieving messages. Our initial goal is to streamline the dispensing of new member information, but additional uses are being discussed and may be implemented at a later date. If you have any ideas about additional uses for this number and would like to share them, you are encouraged to attend the Steering Committee meetings where this topic will be discussed.

The number for the SOLAR Club Hotline is (810) 988-6658.

## Did You Know?

Did you know that your SOLAR Club membership gets you more than just great outdoors classes and activities? It can also help you get some great outdoor gear as well. By presenting your membership card at any of the area retailers listed below you will be entitled to special discounts reserved for SOLAR members. These discounts vary from store to store and it's always best to check with the manager on duty at the time of purchase. So get out there and get yourself a deal and support these stores, thanking them for supporting the SOLAR Club!

**Joe's Army-Navy Surplus,**  
Royal Oak, Pontiac, and Warren  
**Moosejaw Outfitters,**  
Keego Harbor  
**Surplus City,**  
Berkley and Westland  
**Venture Outdoors,**  
Plymouth



## Letters

## Life's a Beach!

By the time that this is read, I John Gulas, will be amongst the sand, waves, swamps and coral reefs of hot, muggy, humid, and hurricanish Miami, Florida. I have an opportunity to return to graduate school. To all my SOLAR friends, I want to say thank-you for all the great trips and memories. If you get a chance, pay me a visit when the grey skies and cold temps of a typical Detroit winter come around. However, if there happens to be snow, I'll return. You can contact me at:

9'40 SW 137th Ave #1010  
Miami, FL 33186  
(305) 387-8314

E-Mail: JRG090866@aol.com



## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

## September

- 2 Monday** Bridge Walk, Mackinaw Bridge  
Steve Gardner (810) 547-4998
- 3 Tuesday** General Membership Meeting, Colony Hall, Southfield, Mike Banks (313) 425-5169  
Program: Backpacking
- 4,11,18,25 Wednesdays** Backpacking Class  
Carol McCrie (810) 229-5232
- 6-8 Weekend** Rock Climbing,  
Rattlesnake Prov. Pk., Jim Young (810) 731-2504
- 21-22 Weekend** Backpacking Practical 1, Pinkney Rec. Area  
Carol McCrie (810) 229-5232
- 27-30 Weekend** Backpack - North Country Trail, Porcupine Mountains SP, Bob Graham (313) 453-7313

## October

- 1 Tuesday** General Membership Meeting, Colony Hall, Southfield, Mike Banks (313) 425-5169
- Early October** Backpacking, Baxter State Park, ME  
Tom Dunn, (313) 494-4212
- 2 Wednesday** Backpacking Class  
Carol McCrie (810) 229-5232
- 3-6 Weekend** Backpacking Practical 2, Pictured Rocks NLS  
Carol McCrie (810) 229-5232
- 11-13 Weekend** UP Mountain Bike Color Tour, NCT  
Steve Gardner (810) 547-4998
- 11-13 Weekend** Chain of Lakes Canoeing (KF)  
Jim Gilfix, (810) 539-0489
- 25-27 Weekend** 5th Annual Haunted Halloween, Bald Mtn. Rec. Area, Leslie Cordova (810) 547-5626

## November

- 2 Saturday** Skills Exchange and Repair Day  
Doug Lanyk (810) 834-4551
- 5 Tuesday** General Membership Meeting, and Annual Photo Contest Colony Hall, Southfield, Mike Banks (313) 425-5169
- 9-11 Weekend** November at Nordhouse, Nordhouse Dunes Nat'l Lakeshore, Steve Gardner (810) 547-4998

\*\* Denotes a Non-SOLAR activity

KF = "Kid Friendly", activities appropriate for kids and parents.

If you would like to help plan or lead an activity, please contact Leslie Cordova at (810) 547-5626 (H) or (810) 901-1711 (W).

SOLAR has a "No Refund" policy, however, if you are unable to attend an activity, you may "Sell Your Spot" to another SOLAR Club member.

## Upcoming Event

## Equipment Repair Day and Skills Exchange

It's time to: put the bikes away, Sew up the broken zipper on the tent, Tune and wax the skis, Clean the campstove, fix the torn grommets on the rainfly. Change the bearings on your rollerblades. Seam seal and waterproof all the camping stuff, Etc... We will also show you how to customize your equipment, add pockets to gear, straps to stuff sacks, create your own parawing.

On Saturday November 2 We will have available skilled members willing to teach and help you get all your toys back into prime working order. The tools and space to work will also be available. The skills exchange will be at Douglas Lanyk's house, give a call if you are interested (810) 634-4551.

## Upcoming Event

## Autumn in Albion

By Jim Gilfix

Begin planning now for the Fall colors. No, its not too soon. This year I am planning a "special" trip. On October 11, we will drive the 3 hours to Chain o' Lakes State Park, in Albion, Indiana.

This park has a beautiful series of connected kettle lakes nestled among the steep wooded hillsides. These lakes are connected by water channels, which are lined by an assortment of colored leaves on various trees. We will be camping in their modern campground, with flush toilets and showers. Saturday we will canoe 3-4 hours in 5 of their 8 lakes. We will go through their canals and passageways which are different than streams or creeks, as

there is no current, so the going is slow, easy, safe (fit for all age kids) and incredibly gorgeous! (We did this trip 2 years ago and loved it).

Of course we will have a big SOLAR potluck dinner and sit around a campfire. Sunday we will hike some of the many trails of the park. We also found this to be exceptionally pretty as it goes by 4-8 lakes, canals and waterways. There are no pay-ahead costs. The trip should cost about \$15 which includes entrance to the park, a campsite, canoeing for 8 hours and a great hike, plus food and gas.

Sign up at the September or October SOLAR meeting and collect a detailed hand-out, which includes directions to the park, map of the park and the hiking canoe route, costs and history of the area. Contact me, Jim Gilfix, for more info.

## Upcoming Event

## ITS PICNIC TIME AGAIN

On Sunday, September 8, we will be meeting at Maybury State Park for a picnic, a hike and/or bike and/or mountain bike ride, outdoor games, maybe kite flying too. Those of you with small kids will want to arrive at 9:30 a.m. and go to the Living Farm. Anyone is allowed to reach in and pet their pigs, turkeys, sheep, goats, cows, horses and ducks. The rest of the folks should arrive at noonish.

We will eat first, potluck lunch, play games then we will leave our stuff in the cars, except the bikes and go for bike rides and/or a hike. We will ride or walk then maybe meet for more games, fun, food, fun, conversation, fun, kite flying, fun or maybe for more fun. We will have fun, then head home. Contact Jim Gilfix for more information.



## Upcoming Event

# 5th Annual Haunted Halloween Weekend

**Where:** Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Cabins #1 and #2

**Dates:** Friday 10/25/95 7PM to Sunday 10/27/95 2PM

**Cost:** A mere \$10

**Trip Limit:** 40 people

**Trip Leader:** Leslie Cordova  
(810) 547-5626

**Plan:** Meet Friday at the cabins at 7:00 PM and warm up by the wood stoves.

Saturday we will enjoy Michigan's autumn colors while mountain biking and hiking. In the afternoon, take a hayride to a local pumpkin patch to look for the great pumpkin. You may buy a pumpkin to carve for the SOLAR pumpkin carving contest later that evening, or bring your own. Bring knives or pumpkin cutters. And don't forget your costume as there will be prizes awarded in various categories. Halloween weekend wouldn't be complete without the traditional apple bobbing and Twister twist-off and, of course, the traditional SOLAR style "pot-luck" dinner on Saturday.

Sunday, we can bike / hike/ horseback ride, or stop at a cider mill on the way home.

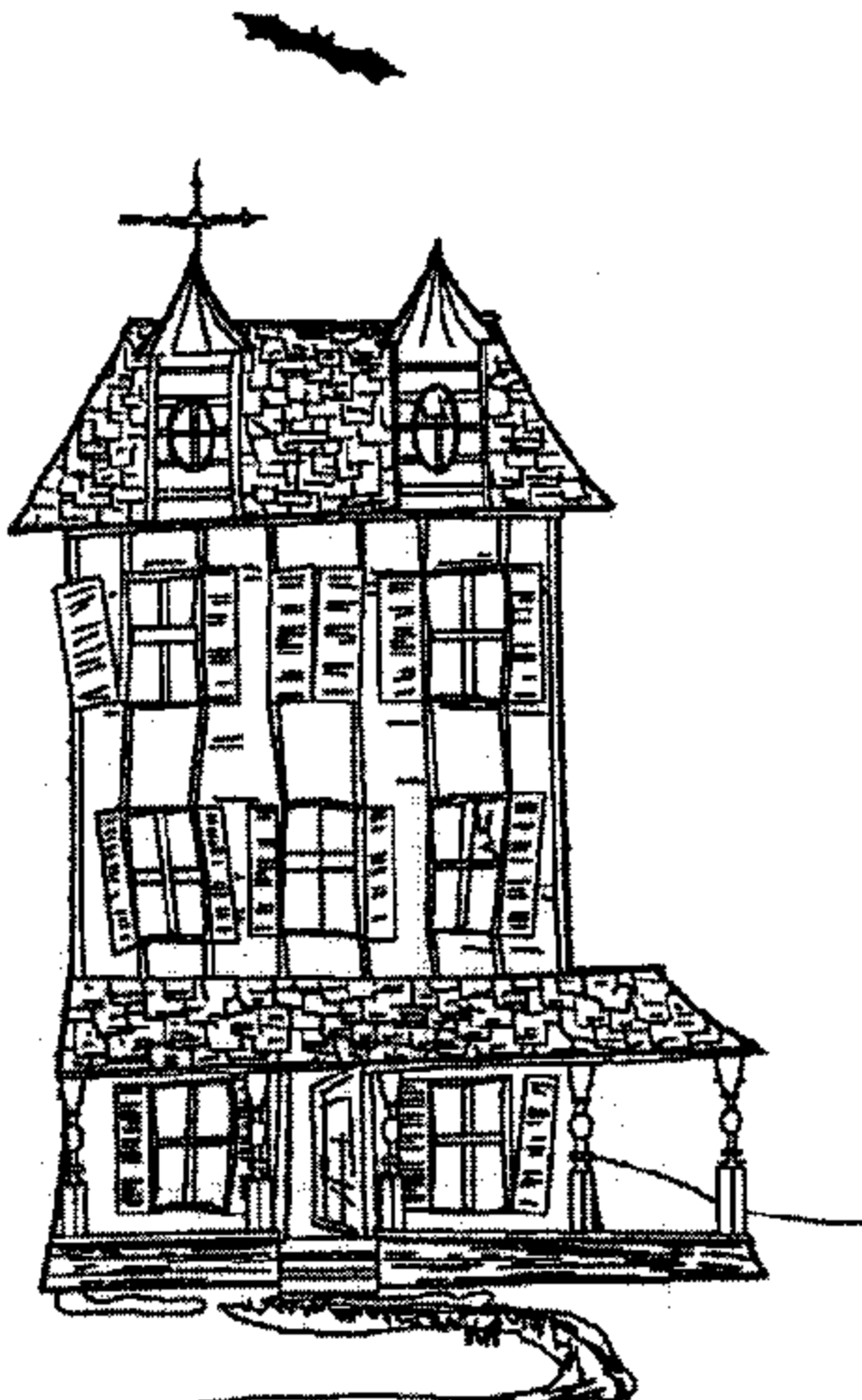
**Notes:** Bring your most chilling ghost stories and haunting cassette tapes. Bring games, mitts, frisbies, etc. There is no electricity, so bring stoves, lanterns, and coolers. A water pump, outhouse, and wood burning stoves are provided. Each bunk features a 2-inch thick mattress, bring blankets or sleeping bags.

And, yes, a valid Michigan State Parks permit is required.

For directions and information, contact Leslie Cordova at (810) 547-5626. Be prepared to pay in full and pay quickly at the October meeting. This trip will be filling fast.

## Walleyball!!!

Every Monday night, 7-9 p.m. at Bailey Recreation Center, Westland MI. Contact Margaret Martin at (313) 721-2821 (home) or (313) 722-7620 (work).



## 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.

**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: Steve Gardner, SOLAR Ray Editor, 10024 Borgman, Huntington Woods, MI 48070 or call Steve at (810) 547-4998, or E-mail to [slgardner@gna.com](mailto:slgardner@gna.com)

## 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 21760 Evergreen Rd. in Southfield, between 8 & 9 Mile Roads at 7:30 PM SHARP. Membership dues are \$30 individual annually, or \$100 individual lifetime.

For more information about SOLAR call the

**SOLAR Club Hotline**

**24 Hour Voice Mail: (810) 988-6658**

## STEERING COMMITTEE

President	.....	Mike Banks / (313) 235-8129
Vice-President	.....	Doug Lanyk / (810) 634-4551
Secretary	.....	Cindy Harrison-Felix / (313) 722-3994
Treasurer	.....	Cindy Erickson / (313) 397-8240
Activities	.....	Leslie Cordova / (810) 547-5628
Membership	.....	Mary Price / (810) 477-7547
Equipment	.....	Mike Felix / (313) 722-3994
Bylaws	.....	Harry Price / (810) 477-7547
Education	.....	Bob Graham / (313) 453-7313
SOLAR Ray	.....	Steve Gardner / (810) 547-4998
Historian	.....	Dave Foerster / (313) 453-0692
Programs	.....	Margaret Martin / (313) 721-2821
At Large	.....	
		Cindy Harrison-Felix / (313) 722-3994 Steve Gardner / (810) 547-4998
		Bob Westbrook / (313) 513-8454 Joan Westbrook / (313) 513-8454
		Mo DeFrance / (810) 229-8283 Larry Martin / (313) 591-3856
		Bill Halvangle / (810) 669-1911 Al Fylak / 852-7514
		Joan Ryan / (810) 570-1511

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



**SOLAR CLUB**  
P.O. BOX 2438  
SOUTHFIELD MI 48037



The Ray is printed on 50% recycled paper stock.

# SOLAR

m e m b e r

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