

May, 1997

The SOLAR Ray

THE SCHOOL FOR OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE AND RECREATION

Upcoming Event

North Manitou Island Backpack Memorial Weekend

North Manitou Island is part of Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes National Lakeshore. The island has a wide variety of natural beauty as well as an interesting human history as evidenced by the interesting place names and ruins across the island. There are 15,000 acres to explore and hike around. The topography varies considerably from low, sandy, open dunes to rugged bluffs.

There is a variety of wildlife on the island, including deer, raccoons that will steal your food, give the opportunity and the piping plover, a shore bird which is on the endangered species list, BUT NO BEARS!!! Fishing is permitted on Lake Manitou, with a valid fishing license.

Be prepared for a rustic backpacking experience, as you will need to hang your food, purify your drinking water, and bring a cook stove, as fires are not permitted in the wilderness area. Oh, and by the way, there are no outhouses.

Cost of the trip is \$20 which will cover the ferry ride over to the island. The park service has started to charge for camping this year, the cost will be \$5 per night per site for camping. You



will be responsible for this cost, as it is NOT included in the \$20 for the ferry. You may choose to take the ferry over either Friday or Saturday at 10:00 AM SHARP, returning Monday at 11:10 AM SHARP!!!

Since this Island is very popular, I will be making the ferry reservations in April, thus I need everyone to pay by the April meeting. After this time, if you still want to go you will need to make your own ferry reservations.

At the May meeting I will have a list of people who are going on both the Friday and Saturday ferry. Please take a copy and try to carpool as much as possible. Also, since there will be a lot of people going on this trip, we will need to practice minimal impact camping, so try to set up small (less than 8 people) hiking groups. Remember that your group will be responsible for their own food and gear (stoves, water filters, tents, first aid, bear bag etc.) PLEASE COME PREPARED!!!

If you need additional information, please contact: Leslie Cordova at (810) 547-5626

Please don't delay, as the ferry will fill up quickly.

Upcoming Activity

Spring Bird Migration at Point Pelee

Mid-May brings the world renowned annual spring bird migration to Point Pelee National Park in Ontario, Canada. Saturday, May 17th we'll meet to set up camp: then we can hike, bird watch, bike, canoe, sun at the beach, etc.

Sunday morning at dawn, we'll arise to get an early jump on the bird watching. We'll hike the birding trails and try to identify as many birds as we can. This is a great time of year to hike the trails and also see many wild flowers.

The cost of the trip will be \$15 and is limited to the first 16 people to sign up and pay in full. The cost includes your camping and continental breakfast on Sunday morning. For further information, contact Cindy Harrison-Felix at (313) 722-3994.

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).

Upcoming Event

7th Annual Fossil Hunting Hike/Picnic

Join us on Sunday, July 27 for this unique outing for your family or yourself. See beautiful woods, exciting waterfalls, walk down a fossil stream and swim in the Huron River in Arkona, Ontario, about 2 hours from Royal Oak. I've sponsored this trip the past six years and everyone always has tons of fun; it's a day to remember! We will tour their museum, share a potluck lunch (about 1:30) then go for a hike which begins under their 35 foot waterfall, down the stream to the fossil fields. This trip is open to all. Contact Jim Gilfix at (810) 539-0490 for more information.

Did You Know?

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.

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

Visit The SOLAR Page on
the World Wide Web at:

<http://members.tripod.com/~solarclub1>

1997-1998 SOLAR Steering Committee Nominations

PRESIDENT: to preside at meetings of the Club and Steering Committee, and other duties pertaining to this office. Running for President: Mike Banks

VICE PRESIDENT: to preside at meetings in the absence of the president, and other duties pertaining to this office. Running for Vice-President: Cyndy Erickson, Margaret Martin

SECRETARY: to inform membership of meetings, record the minutes of Steering Committee meetings, make required reports, carry on necessary correspondence, and other duties pertaining to this office. Running for Secretary: Linda Burke

TREASURER: to have custody of all funds; accounting for the same by written report at the Steering Committee meetings, to maintain an inventory record, and other duties pertaining to the office. Running for Treasurer: Susan Gaydos

ACTIVITIES: to develop activities and assist in carrying out those approved by the Steering Committee in keeping with the purpose of the Club, to establish and maintain guidelines and to make subsequent determinations on "Steering Committee approved" activities developed by members of the Club. Running for Activities: Leslie Cordova

BYLAWS: to review periodically the Bylaws to determine what, if any, changes should be made to meet the changes in time. Running for Bylaws: Harry Price

SOLAR Ray to be responsible for the publication of *The SOLAR Ray*, to work with other committees and

groups to promote the club and its activities, and to organize and publish other materials as deemed necessary for the good of the club. Running for Communications: Nancy Day, Jim Young

EDUCATION: to develop and coordinate the educational program of the Club, to approve or select the qualified people to instruct these programs and to explore new areas that may be of interest to members of the Club. Running for Education: Lester Mok

EQUIPMENT: to establish and maintain guidelines for the procurement and use of all physical properties of the Club, to maintain inventories, to monitor the condition of, and to regulate the use and storage of such properties. Running for Equipment: Bob Granam

MEMBERSHIP: to strengthen and expand the membership in the Club, to maintain accurate and updated membership records, to maintain and update mailing lists and mailing labels, to provide new members with information and appropriate materials pertaining to the Club. Running for Membership: Mary Price

HISTORIAN: to compile and maintain a record of club activities utilizing all necessary documentation methods to extol the fulfillment of the stated purpose of the Club. Running for Historian: Dave Foerster

PROGRAMS: to arrange for presentations at the monthly Club meetings, in keeping with the purpose of the Club. Running for Programs: Karen Bates

PUBLIC RELATIONS: to disseminate information about the Club, including press releases, class announcements, etc. Running for Public Relations: John Fedyck, Doug Laryk

*It's an
Attitude!*

Upcoming Event

MS 150, July 12-13, 1997

Come ride with me in the MS 150 and raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis research. My name is Jeff and I am the captain for the SOLAR team

On Saturday, July 12 we will depart from Northville Downs and riding 75 to 100 miles (with rest stops every 10 to 12 miles) to arrive in East Lansing. Overnight accommodations and meals are provided by Michigan State University. Sunday after breakfast, we will leave MSU and ride back to Northville completing the 150 to 200 miles.

We will need at least four people riding to be a team. I have registration forms for you or you can call the MS 150 hotline at 1-800-247-7382 and sign up on the SOLAR team.

Registration fee is \$30 before May 2 and \$35 after. If you do not ride then be a sponsor for one who is riding.

Your Captain,
Jeff Enterkin
(810) soon to be (248) 399-0696

Mountaineering Partner Wanted

I am looking for a person or persons to climb a couple of 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado late summer or early fall of this year. You must be experienced in mountaineering, i.e. crampon technique, rope handling, glacier travel, etc. and willing to go on a couple of compatibility treks this summer. If interested, please contact Robert S. Graham at (313) 248-8764 (days) or (313) 453-7313 (evenings).

Activities Calendar

May		
1	Thursday	Backpacking Class, Benchmark Leslie Cordova, (810)-547-5626
2-4	Weekend	Shakedown Hike, Adv. Backpacking , Location TBD, Cindy Harrison-Felix (313) 722-3994
2-4	Weekend	Rock Climbing Class Practical II , Rattlesnake Point, Jim Young (810) 726-3253
6	Tuesday	General Membership Meeting , Colony Hall, Southfield, Mike Banks (313) 425-5169
7	Wednesday	Advanced Backpack Class , Mike and Cindy's, Inkster, Cindy Harrison-Felix (313) 722-3994
9-11	Weekend	Backpacking Practical II , North Manitou Island Leslie Cordova, (810) 547-5626
9-11	Weekend	Rock Climbing, Rattlesnake Point , Jim Young (810) 726-3253
17-26	Week long	Adv. Backpack Practical, Location TBD , Cindy Harrison-Felix (313) 722-3994
17-18	Weekend	Bird Migration/Camping Trip , Point Pelee Margaret Martin, (313) 721-2821
22-25	Weekend	** White Water Rafting , Cheat River, WV, Jonnie Kustisliak (517) 456-7569
23-26	Weekend	North Manitou Island, Backpacking , Leland, MI, Leslie Cordova (810) 547-5626

Upcoming Event

Personal Challenged

In June, I am leading a Personal Challenge trip. Located in a tranquil wooded setting, Starr's Low Ground initiatives and High Ropes Courses challenge individuals to be the best that they can be. Participants work in tasks, which call for risk taking, problem solving, communication and trust.

The initiatives resemble an obstacle course, but are based on a non-competitive teamwork concept. A series of group oriented tasks make up the low, or ground initiative activities. Two ropes courses provide a series of obstacles, one 25 and the other 35 feet off the ground. Ropes, cables and logs must be traversed by participants in such

activities as the bucking log, balance beam, Burma Bridge, hour glass, flea jump and Tarzan Swing. Each course provides an intense experience, which requires facing one's fears and making decisions under pressure. The perceived danger creates a stress level that intensifies the attitudes and behaviors of participants. After tasks are completed, group members and Starr staff discuss feelings and the day's activities.

This activity is open to SOLAR members ages 25 to 63. The cost is \$35 and you pack a lunch. We are scheduled for their outdoor course, but in bad weather, we will use the indoor course.

The day is Saturday, June 14, 9:30 am to 6 pm (it takes about two hours to get there), the limit is 12 people. Sign up at the May or June SOLAR meetings or contact Jim Gilfix for more information at (810) 539-0489.



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, 24323 Buchanan Ct. #1960 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 or call Steve at (810) 442-0765, or send E-mail to sfgardner@earthlink.net

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.

For more information about SOLAR call the

SOLAR Club Hotline

24 Hour Voice Mail: (810) 988-6558

STEERING COMMITTEE

PresidentMike Banks / (313) 235-8129
Vice PresidentDoug Lanyk / (810) 634-4551
SecretaryCindy Harrison-Felix / (313) 722-3994
TreasurerCindy Erickson / (313) 397-8240
ActivitiesLeslie Cordova / (510) 547-5626
MembershipMary Price / (810) 477-7547
EquipmentMike Felix / (313) 722-3994
BylawsLarry Price / (810) 477-7547
EducationBob Graham / (313) 453-7313
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	Bob Westbrook / (313) 513-8454 Joan Westbrook / (313) 513-8454
	Mo DeFrance / (810) 229-8283 Larry Martin / (313) 591-3856
	Bill Halvargis / (810) 669-1911 Al Fytak / 852-7514
	Joan Ryar / (810) 570IVE1

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



SOLAR CLUB
P O BOX 2439
SOUTHFIELD MI 48037

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The Ray is printed on 50%
recycled paper stock.

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EUGENE & LESLIE CORDOVA
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