

# THE SOLAR RAY

THE SCHOOL OF OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE & RECREATION

M A Y 1 9 9 8

## THE SOLAR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

I'm sorry this article did not appear sooner, but...it's that time of year again. Time to elect the Solar Club Officers; also known as the "Steering Committee."

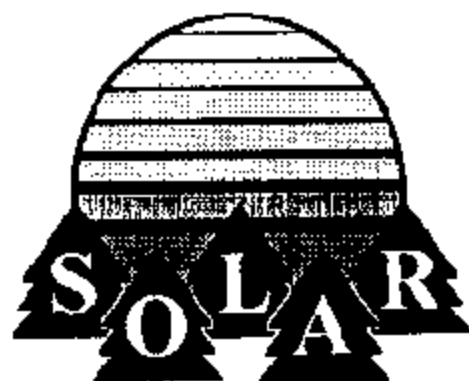
The Solar Club operates on time donated by the members. Now is your chance to help make things happen within the Solar Club. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

At the May general membership meeting all Solar members will be voting for the next Steering Committee. The following positions are available and held for one year:

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ☐ President                 | ☐ Vice President      |
| ☐ Secretary                 | ☐ Treasurer           |
| ☐ Education Chairman        | ☐ By-Laws Chairman    |
| ☐ Membership Chairman       | ☐ Solar Ray Editor    |
| ☐ Program Chairman          | ☐ Historian           |
| ☐ Public Relations Chairman | ☐ Activities Chairman |
| ☐ Equipment Chairman        |                       |

If you would like to learn what being on the Steering Committee entails, our meetings are always open to members...*call me, Karen Bates at 810-983-4147* and I will answer any questions. We meet the last Tuesday of every month in various Steering Committee member's homes. If you would like to run for an office, call me up to the day before the May meeting and I will add your name to the ballot.

*Don't forget! Those who run for office are eligible to win a \$50 gift certificate from Rocky Mountain Outfitters!!!*



### NOTICE OF CHANGE IN THE NORTH MANITOU ISLAND FERRY SCHEDULE:

*The times for the Ferry to North Manitou Island for Memorial Weekend have changed. The ferry will leave Leland Friday and Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM SHARP!!! Please arrive at the boat dock by 9:15 so that you will have enough time to unload your gear, move your car to the parking lot (several blocks away), and pick up your ferry tickets. We will be returning on the Monday morning ferry at 11:00 AM. Once again, please plan to arrive at the boat dock 45 minutes prior to the departure time. If you miss either boat, you will be out of luck, and could have to remain on the island another day or two.*

TO: The SOLAR Membership

FROM: The Prez

*Dear SOLAR:*

As my second term comes to a close, my mind is filled with thoughts of joyous escape. ESCAPE!! Ah, yes, sweet escape! Escape from leading meetings (okay, it's an ego thing.) Escape from setting up committees (okay, it's a challenge.) Escape from getting a consensus (okay, it has a certain Machiavellian appeal.) Escape from shaping policy (okay, it's a power trip.) Escape from begging people (okay, it's...I don't want to talk about it.) ESCAPE!! How about staying politically incorrect: "I don't want to go postal! (I NEED A REST.)

I do look forward! I do look forward to being one of those wondrous members at large congregating in the back of the hall; critiquing the young up-start up front. I look forward to talking about how much better things "used to be." I look forward to not staying until the last aimless members have left the hall. I REALLY look forward to being one of the last members who linger aimlessly before leaving the hall. I look forward to taking up golf...OH, MY GOD! WHAT AM I SAYING?

I'm saying, "THANKS! Thanks for all the good times. Thanks for all the support during the rough times. Thanks for telling me when you thought I was right. (Special thanks for telling me when you thought I was wrong!) Thanks for telling me how great we were. Thanks for telling me how great we could be. Thanks for the hard work. Thanks for the hard play. And, "thanks for the memories."



*The Prez as he contemplates the joys of a third term.*

"And now for something completely different." Let me say thanks to all those past presidents who continue to lend advice and support in a crunch (Bob, Larry, Mo and Curly...I mean...Cindy, most recently.) I really owe Cindy Harrison-Felix and Steve Gardner for being my immediate role models (probably why I worship oaks wearing my pretty purple...I don't want to talk about it...) To these and all the members at large, I say thanks.

*And now for the long list: THANKS TO:*

*Jim Young...*for not only for your love of rock but for covering our collective behinds with insurance year after year.

*Carol McCririe...*for keeping the *QUEST FOR THE HOLY TRAIL* alive.

*Tim Stengl*...for years as postman.

*Tom Dunn*...for trying to elect my *X* as president.

*Dennis Fortier*...for trying to make up for Tom's failure by recalling me. *Ce la vie!*

*Dennis Phillips*...for always being there, and for giving my humor, a demented standard yet to be achieved!

*Margaret Martin*...for her commitment for opening the outdoors to kids and people with special needs.

*Cyndy Erickson*...for bringing Solar accounting into the age of computers.

*Susan Gaydos*...for her 'Computer Accounting for Dummies' approach.

*Linda Burke*...how do I count the ways you have contributed a lifetime of service in a few short years; and still had time to become the most infamous EGO SERIAL KILLER of our time?

*Jim Gilfix*...who not only runs so many of our trips, but still has time to make me feel relatively normal.

*Lester Mok*...for setting new standards and goals in education and still has time to make Jim Gilfix feel normal.

*Doug Lanyk*...for making Public Relations look easy and for making everyone feel normal.

*Mary Price*...who has not only computerized the membership, but is now trying to improve the membership through DNA alterations and cyber implants.

*Harry Price*...for decoding the by-laws, altering them, and in the process, becoming enough of a lawyer to earn a 'third 6' to the top of his skull. (The first and second came from being a scoutmaster and an engineer.)

*Leslie Cordova*...for all her hard work in activities, but mostly for reminding me that no matter

how much I beg, plead, whine, and connive; there will always be someone more annoying.

*Dave Foerster*...for teaching us what a 'curmudgeon' looks like.

*Karen Bates*...for making people join just for the programs (and to hear about her dreams.)

*John Fedyk and Pam Bauerle*...for saying "yes" when we needed you. We realize it's because you didn't know what you were getting yourselves into.

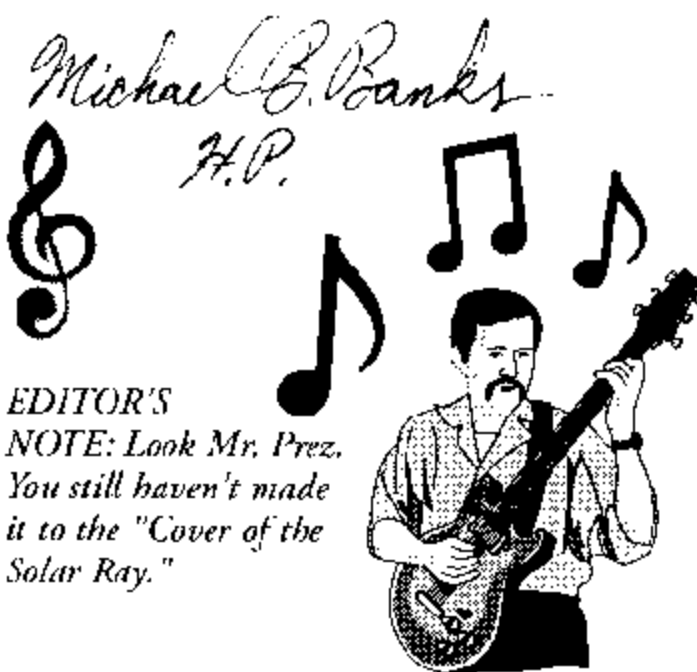
*Last, but not least, (if I didn't say it, you wouldn't be reading any of this)...*

*Nancy Day*...for recreating *The Ray* and for perfecting her "NO, Mr. Prez."

I owe thanks to a lot more people, but the ones above made being *The High Priest of the Cult* if not easier, at least more interesting. I was blessed with these talented people surrounding me. For that I take full credit!

Thanks, guys! It was a slice.

You're Escaping President,



EDITOR'S  
NOTE: Look Mr. Prez.  
You still haven't made  
it to the "Cover of the  
Solar Ray."

## MAY & JUNE ACTIVITIES

May 2 - Rock Climbing Practical I  
Planet Rock or Grand Ledge  
Jim Young 810-731-2504

May 5 - General Membership  
Meeting  
SOLAR OFFICER ELECTIONS  
Colony Hall, Southfield  
Mike Banks 248-926-8939

May 6 - Rock Climbing Class  
Benchmark  
Jim Young 810-731-2504

May 8-10 - Backpacking Practical II  
Hoist Lakes  
Mike Banks 248-926-8939

May 9 - Bird Watching Class  
University of Michigan -  
Dearborn  
John Fedyk 248-541-0499

May 9 - Rock Climbing Class  
Powers Park  
Jim Young 810-731-2504

May 15-17 - Rock Climbing  
Practical II  
Rattlesnake Prov. Park,  
Ontario, Canada  
Jim Young 810-731-2504

May 16 - Heartsavers Saturday  
(CPR)  
Cobo Hall  
Harry Price 248-477-7547

May 16-17 - Bird Migration/  
Camping Trip  
Pt. Pelee Prov. Pk., Ontario  
Dave Forester 734-453-0392

May 22-25 - North Manitou Island  
Backpack  
Leland, Michigan  
Leslie Cordova  
248-547-5626

May 22-25 - White Water Rafting/  
Camping and Other Assorted  
Goodies  
New River, W. Virginia  
Jim Gilfix 248-539-0489

May 22-25 - White Water Rafting/  
Camping and Other Assorted  
Goodies (KIDS OKAY)  
Upper New River, W. Virginia  
Jim Gilfix 248-539-0489

June 2 - General Membership  
Meeting  
Colony Hall, Southfield

June 6 - National Trails Day  
Service Project  
Maybury State Park, Northville  
R.E.L. 248-347-2100

June 5-7 - Rattlesnake Weekend  
Rattlesnake Provincial Park  
Milton, Ontario  
Jim Young 810-731-2504

June 17 - Nature Hike, Wildflower  
Identification and Kite Flying  
(KIDS OKAY)  
Kensington Metro Park  
Jim Gilfix 248-539-0489

June 20 - Canoe Paddling Classes  
Doug's House in Holly, Michigan  
Doug Lanyk  
248-634-4551

WALLYBALL - Every Monday  
Center Margaret Martin at  
313-721-2821 or 313-722-7620

ROLLERBLADING AT THE  
SILVERDOME -  
Contact Doug Lanyk for times  
and dates at 248-634-4551



## LAZAROTTI WINS!

There were 31 people eager to  
make their club victorious.

We now know who the  
victor is. The first game was a  
warm-up for those who had played  
before and a time for beginners to  
learn the game. The top four  
shooters were Solar members: 1st-  
Mike Banks, 2nd-Jim Gilfix, 3rd-  
Mike Malon, and 4th-Jeff  
Enterkin. The second and third  
games were the main event but due  
to a misunderstanding between  
Laser Quest and I, the computer  
made the teams for the second  
game. 1st-Jeff Enterkin (Solar and  
Skiwi member), 2nd-Mike  
Lazarotti (Skiwi), and 3rd-Terry  
Rowley (Skiwi). It came down to  
the third game. Both sides were  
battling with a lot of Skiwi's  
coming after me for being on the  
Solar team instead of the Skiwi  
team. At the end Solar scored  
5,932 points to the Skiwi's 4,459.  
That made the Solar team THE  
WINNERS! The top three  
shooters were: 1st-Jeff Enterkin,  
2nd-Terry Rowley, and 3rd-Tina  
Kress (Skiwi's).

*We all had a good time and  
the pizza and pop disappeared  
quickly. Maybe this can become an  
annual event. Good, clean rivalry  
between two clubs.*

*- Jeff Enterkin*

## NATURAL BRIDGES STATE PARK & RED RIVER GORGE LABOR DAY WEEKEND

**DATES:** September 4-5, 1998  
**COST:** \$60 for 3 nights of cabin lodging, cheaper if all four cabins are filled (\$50)  
**WHERE:** Natural Bridge Cabins / 606-663-4900 or after hours 606-668-2026  
**TIME:** Check in after 3 PM. Friday Check out by 11 AM Monday  
**TRIP LIMIT:** 24 people  
**CUT-OFF DATE:** I need all money by August 4, 1998  
**TRIP LEADER:** *Leslie Cordova / 248-547-5626*  
**PARTICULARS:**

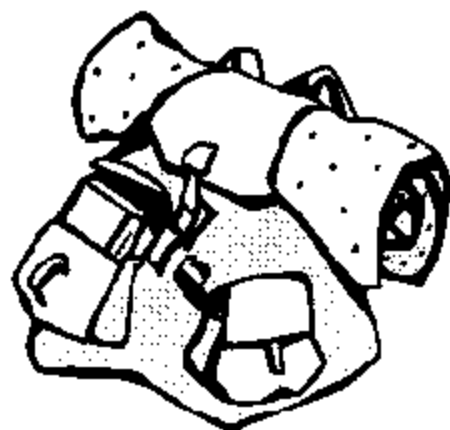
You will be responsible for your own food, and might want to coordinate with the other members of your cabin.

This is a dry county, so if you would like alcohol either bring it with you or you can purchase it in nearby Wolfe County (7 miles away.)

TO GET THE WHOLE SCOOP, PICK-UP A FLYER AT THE UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS!



### ADVANCED BACKPACKING



All parties interested should call **Mike Banks 248-926-8939** or **Lester Mok 519-256-0324** for details. This will be an intense experience. The **strong** will be eaten, so you better be better!!!



Just about everything concerning this trip is TBA. Just tickling your fancy about what is coming up... Call Mr. Prez, soon to be X-Mr. Prez for more details... 248-926-8939. **TOTALLY UN-FRIENDLY TRIP!**



### BACKPACKING CLASS REUNIONS...

Want to relive those great old times with the same old group you went through basic backpacking with? Now's your chance. In the making are "class reunions in the wilds." More information upcoming at the general membership meetings and future Solar Rays.

# THE SOLAR RAY BULLETIN BOARD

## NATURE HIKE, WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION AND KITE FLYING

**I** have led this activity in the past and it has always been fun and informative. On June 17, Sunday, we will meet at the Nature Center of Kensington Metro Park at 10:00 a.m. We will walk the nature trail looking for and identifying the wildflowers we see. We will use the small *Peterson's Field Guide to Wildflowers* and use majority rule to decide what wildflower we've discovered. This will truly be a hands-on experience.

Afterwards we will picnic together and then "go fly a kite" or two in the field. Cost is \$10.00 per group (1-4 people) which includes the book, handouts of medicinal and edible plants and a Vernon. Extra kites will be available but everyone is encouraged to purchase their own. Of course, kids are welcome and encouraged. If you like to hike fast and/or get impatient easily, DO NOT sign up for this class, but join with us free and bring your kite and own Vernors. I know the butterfly lady's (Cyndy) kids are good with kites, but how about Annie, Chris, Brian and Kore? And Sarah and Jeannette and Craig? Anyone know how to operate (and own) a stunt kite?

Let's make this a Grand turnout and maybe Erin, Neal and Cassandra will go, too. Sign up at the May SOLAR meeting. Contact Jan Gilfix for more information at 248-539-0489.



## FOR SALE:

- (1) bear resistant food container, \$50.00.
  - (2) Coleman white gas lantern with case \$35.00.
- See Lester at the next meeting.

LOOKING FOR INTERESTED  
BACKPACKERS TO JOIN US ON  
A BACKPACK TRIP THE FIRST  
WEEK IN AUGUST.

IF INTERESTED CALL:

CAROL DUNN AT HOME -  
313-561-1653  
OR KATHY KIRBIE AT HOME -  
313-953-9095

## SIGHT AND SOUND

## A BEGINNING BIRDING COURSE



When: Saturday, May 9, 1998

Where: University of Michigan - Dearborn

Cost: \$5.00 - Please pay at the April Meeting

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 1:00 p.m. - ?  
Nature Walk

Program: If you are one of those people who have trouble focusing on birds... That is, they fly away before you can get a good look. Take this course. It will consist of slides and recorded bird calls that will enable beginning birders, as well as those with more experience, to "tune in" on birds. This course will also briefly discuss the behavior of common backyard bird species.

Contact: John Fedyk at 248-541-0499 for further information.

**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 and original articles are welcome. Send all contributions to: **Nancy Day, SOLAR Ray Editor • 1788 Brentwood Drive • Troy, MI 48098 248-641-9863 • FAX: 248-545-3479 or provide on MAC disk.**

**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., Southfield between 8 & 9 Mile Roads at 7:30 p.m. Membership dues are \$30 individual annually or \$150 individual lifetime and \$45 family annually or \$225 family lifetime.

For more information about SOLAR, call the

**SOLAR CLUB HOTLINE**

24-Hour Voice Mail (248) 988-6658

Or visit our Worldwide Web at:

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

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

President ..... Mike Barks / 248.926.8939  
 Vice President... John Fylak / 248-541-0499  
 Secretary ..... Linda Burke / 248.471.5185  
 Treasurer ..... Susan Gaynes / 734.482.8404  
 Activities ..... Leslie Cordova / 248.547.5626  
 Membership... Mary Price / 248.477.7547  
 Equipment..... Pam Baucke / 248-546-2633  
 By-Laws ..... Harry Price / 248.477.7547  
 Education..... Lester Mok / 519.256.0324  
 SOLAR Ray ..... Nancy Day / 248.541.9863  
 Historian..... Dave Boerster / 734.453.0692  
 Programs ..... Karen Bates / 810.983.4147  
 Public Relations..... Doug Laryk / 248.534.4551

**At Large**

Steve Gardner / 253-835-0438  
 Cindy Harrison-Pelix / 313.722.3954  
 Joan Westbrook / 313.513.8454  
 Joan Ryan / 810 571DIVE1  
 Al Fylak / 352-7514  
 Larry Martin / 313.591.3356  
 Mo DeFrance / 810.229.8283  
 Bob Westbrook / 734.513.8454  
 Bill Halvargis / 810.569.1911  
 Peg Campbell / 248-344-1260

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

**THE SCHOOL OF OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE & RECREATION****SOLAR CLUB**

PO BOX 2438

SOUTHFIELD MI 48037



*The SOLAR Ray*  
 is printed on 50%  
 recycled paper stock.

• S O L A R •  
 M E M B E R

GENE & LESLIE CORDOVA  
 14520 BORGMAN  
 OAK PARK MI 48137