



# THE SOLAR RAY

July 1999

## JULY PROGRAM—SOLAR FREEDOM FESTIVAL

Come hungry for the July meeting can picnic on hamburgers and hotdogs the holiday one more time (in Fourth!) with your friends and a barbecue bug spray, and outdoor games, Frisbees



Also, there will be a money raffle so bring lots of dollar bills!!! Condiments (hint—the usual ones), utensils, and paper plates will also be provided by SOLAR. This is one program that should appeal to all! The monthly meeting will begin a half-hour earlier (7:00 PM) so we can get to the food.

where, following the monthly meeting, you supplied and prepared by SOLAR! Celebrate case you didn't get enough to eat on the on the lawn. Bring a dish to pass, beverages, and the like—cards if you're a Buchre fan.

**REMINDER: DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE PROGRAM, THIS MONTH'S MEETING ON JULY 6 WILL START AT 7:00 PM!!!**

## TRUCKING IN NEPAL—COMING IN AUGUST...

**EVER DREAM OF CLIMBING EVEREST?** FIND OUT AT THE AUGUST PROGRAM IF YOU COULD TAKE THE CHALLENGE---OR SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE ADVENTURE VICARIOUSLY THROUGH THE ADVENTURES OF SHERPA Nima Tenzing.

If the image of a Himalayan adventure, a trek across the Everest Region, or possibly even a trip to Base Camp moves you, join us at SOLAR's August meeting in welcoming Sherpa Nima Tenzing from Nepal. He has run eighty major expeditions and currently runs a trekking business with his son. He was involved in the 1963 American Expedition and was awarded by President Kennedy for his rescue work. Nima will present a slide show featuring breath-taking scenery, tell colorful stories, and give information on how to participate in an incredible adventure.

*No, this issue is really not Paddle Times in disguise, but look inside, you'll be surprised...*

*The School of Outdoor Leadership, Adventure & Recreation*

## **CLASS OFFERINGS**

### **OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP AND TEAM BUILDING**

WHEN: August 6-8, 1999  
 LOCATION: To be announced  
 COST: \$70.00  
 LEAD INSTRUCTOR: Harry Price  
 248/477-7547

This is a new class for SOLAR. The class will deal with leadership skills, including effective communications, decision making, conflict resolution, leadership styles (sharing leadership), and controlling group performance. In addition, team-building exercises suitable for the development of small groups will be presented, discussed, and practiced. The class will start at 7:30 a.m., Friday night, and will end at approximately noon on Sunday. The text is Outdoor Leadership by John Graham - The Mountaineers. If you are thinking of leading a trip or activity for the first time, this is a class you should strongly consider.

### **TRIP PLANNING SEMINAR**

WHEN: July 28, 1999  
 TEXT: Handouts to be provided  
 LOCATION: Benchmark, Farmington, MI  
 COST: \$10.00  
 LEAD INSTRUCTOR: Cindy Harrison-Felix  
 REGISTRATION: Harry Price  
 248/477-7547

This class builds on the skills developed in the beginning backpacking class. The class will provide practical skills for trip planning. Participants will be given the opportunity to develop detailed trip plans. The class will start at 6:30 p.m.

### **LIVING CLOSER TO THE EARTH .....ANYONE?**

Yes, I know we're already living on the 3<sup>rd</sup> rock. But what I mean is...can you live without a phone, pager, computer, TV or CD? Or can you survive without a tent, sleeping bag, stove, TP or candy? And no, this is not a sale pitch for my "Y2K-proofed" goodies, but a reminder that you can still live close to the heartbeats of Mother Earth. You can learn about nature and earth-living skills at the Great Lakes Primitives Gathering on Bois Blanc Island, located just east of the Mackinac Bridge. The workshops will be held from Thursday, 8/19, to Saturday, 8/21. They may include shelter building, fire and corcage making, wild edible and medicinal plants, primitive pottery, basket making, primitive weapons and trapping, primitive navigation, nature awareness, and more.

All workshops are free, but you have to pay for the materials. The registration cost is about \$90, and it includes some meals, a wilderness tent site next to Lake Huron, and clean port-a-johns. There will be an auction on donated crafts on Saturday. I am still waiting for details about the gathering. Since I've other fish to fry, I'm looking for a volunteer to coordinate this non-SOLAR workshop for our members. Contact me, Lester Mok, 519/256-0324.

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### **HELP WANTED: SOLAR EDUCATION**

We need course coordinators and lead instructors in order to keep providing an interesting and varied class schedule. Classes offered over the past few years which are sitting on the shelf for lack of help are primitive skills, basic tracking, outdoor photography, beginning kayaking, basic GPS, and basic radio usage. Do you have an interest in any one of these or do you have an idea for a new class? Please call SOLAR Education Director Harry Price at 248/477-7547.



With 17 students and five assistant instructors Sharon Stanek had her hands full for the final practical. The weekend at Rattlesnake Provincial park near Milton, Ontario was great. The weather cooperated—mid 70's for highs, mid 50's for lows. We spent the first two days learning and practicing the difference between a safe top-rope setup and the dangerous knots and ropes some other climbing schools use. SOLAR climbers are definitely safety-conscious. At night our tired bodies were lulled to sleep by the sounds of 10,000 boy scouts singing campfire ditties. To be fair, the square dancers put up a good battle for our attention.

On Sunday, I was a little disappointed in the morning being up, breakfasted, packed, and ready to go by 8 am just as some of the group was getting out of bed. It was a slow start. Most of the climbs were past this climber's abilities, although many of the students climbed better than mountain goats. The instructors and students climbed until they had to leave.

After climbing, I was introduced to the candy stores in downtown Toronto. Several other SOLARites and I did our share of picking up the Canadian economy. With fresh endorphins in my bloodstream, spending the money to buy my own rock climbing gear was easy. If you haven't tried the Rock-Climbing class, do so. You'll love it.



Whitewater rafting on the Lower New River in Fayetteville, West Virginia is one of America's best whitewater experiences. There will be a full day trip on Saturday with beautiful scenery and a riverside lunch, an Express Trip on Sunday and two nights lodging in cabins (limited space available) or tent camping. This trip includes expert guide service, necessary equipment, and transport to and from the river. Family raft options include rafting all day Saturday on the Middle New River in rafts or two-person duckies and choice of rock-climbing, river trip (must be 12 yrs.+), or horseback riding on Sunday. Fayetteville is approximately an 8-hour drive from Detroit. The cost is \$210.

For more info about the trip (there's still space!), call Lisa Boose at 248/681-3617 or see her at the meeting. Payment in full must be made by July 6<sup>th</sup>.

### ---WEEKLY KAYAKING ON WEDNESDAYS---

Join us for a weekly evening kayak on a different lake every week throughout the Metro area. We will meet at 6:30 pm and start our paddle at 7:00 pm. To find out our next location, call Sharon Broderick at 248/660-2095, email [Sharon\\_Broderick@MichCon.com](mailto:Sharon_Broderick@MichCon.com) or call Danno Merchant at 810/254-1487 or email [merchant@fre.com](mailto:merchant@fre.com).

### July 22-25 Great Lakes Sea Kayak Symposium, Grand Marais, Pictured Rocks Area

Join Matt Dalton, other SOLAR members and about 300 people at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Sea Kayak Symposium in Grand Marais, Michigan. This is an educational non-Solar event for people interested in sea kayaking, beginner to expert. It is sponsored by The Great Lakes Sea Kayak Club and supported by the American Canoe Association, sea kayak manufacturers and retailers, and the town of Grand Marais. The event is hosted on the beautiful and magnificent shores of Lake Superior. People of all ranges of experience, beginner to expert kayaker will attend the event from Michigan and several neighboring states. The Symposium costs \$75.00 if you register before July 10th or \$90.00 at the event. The symposium includes 3 days of classes, trips, the opportunity to try many different kayaks from a variety of kayak manufacturers, slide shows, a night paddle and social activities. We will camp at the Woodland camp ground right on the shores of Lake Superior. There is a nominal fee to camp. Bring your own sea kayak or you can rent one from one of three outfitters for a fee. You will need a wet or dry suit for the tours. These can also be rented if you don't own one. Lake Superior is cold and beautiful. Matt will organize car pooling for Solar Club members and we will camp together. **Contact Matt** at: 248-360-1611 for further information. This is a fun, great, educational event.

## Camping at Pigeon River

by Daniel "Danno" Merchant

At Pigeon River Campground (our base of operations), campsites are first come, first served, so I drove up Thursday night to secure sites. I spent Friday morning putting up my site and erecting a dining fly. Sean Lennon, Heather Langille, and Paula Dirksen showed up around lunchtime. The sky was overcast, and occasionally spitting rain. After lunch, we hiked West along the ridge overlooking the river to a mile or so past Ford Lake. Wildflower identification is not one of my specialties, but Heather says we saw pink and white trillium. The water levels at Ford Lake were very low, the result of a dry spring. Still the water levels in the river were higher than I expected, definitely high enough to support a kayak.

Sean and I decided to go ride the Shingle Mill Pathway while the women went hiking some more. The Shingle Mill connects to the primary trail in this area, the 70 mile long High Country Pathway, at two junctures forming a loop. It was 7 pm, and Sean and I needed to move fast in order to cover all 16 miles by nightfall. We take safety seriously, so we packed the night riding lights just in case (Heather expressed some concern that we were empowering ourselves to be out after dark!). We made it back to camp by 8:30 PM with some day light left. Eric Bezan showed up during dinner. John Pecky, Amy Barber, and Glenn Beard arrived later. There was not as much campfire camaraderie as I would have liked that night, with four of us stuffed from dinner, and the other four busy setting up tents.

Everyone had plans for Saturday (it was wonderfully sunny!). We all headed, in our various ways, north on the Shingle Mill. Eric left with a full pack to train for a backpacking trip. Amy, Glenn, and John headed out for an eleven mile hike, and the rest of us took the path on our bikes. We all got back around dinnertime. It is so hard to resist playing when there is daylight, so with the assistance of my dedicated support staff (Sean and Heather), I went solo kayaking. Solo kayaking down a wild river is not normally a particularly safe activity. We improved my survival odds by stuffing a repeater radio up on a ridge, so that I could stay in constant radio contact with Sean and Heather. Sean ran the kayak and me down the river and helped me launch. The paddle was generally beautiful, with 8 portages through extremely dense underbrush. I got out of two by "scoutching" over downed logs at "ramming speed". Portage #6 had some unplanned

excitement as I unknowingly walked on top of the roof of a beaver lodge and fell through! My campmate gave me no mercy the rest of the weekend about the beaver incident. The repeater worked extremely well until some squirrels attacked the repeater and turned it off (must have been the extra-virgin duct tape). Fortunately, I was past the halfway point when this happened. I kept relaying landmarks, and Sean and Heather determined my progress using a 7.5" USGS plot. Fortunately I beat the setting sun (but not by much), and Sean, Heather, and Eric pulled the kayak and me out of the river.

While John, Amy, Glenn, and Eric hung out at the campfire, the rest of us started on dinner. Eric had taken his backpacking exercise seriously, and stoically dined on rehydrated stuff. The graduates of Winter Camping were hell bent to dine on gourmet fare with fresh vegetables, elaborate marinades, and cast iron cookery. And for a change, there was time for campfire camaraderie, with Amy providing remedial instruction in smores construction (pre-heating the chocolate on the graham cracker substrate really does make a difference!). We were all quite social until bedtime. The advanced cookery thing carried into Sunday with the men of SOLAR making fresh omelets for the women of SOLAR. It was looking gloomy, but we followed through on our plans for a group ride south to Round Lake. All seven cyclist had a whistle and compass around their neck (I thought about spot checking for space blankets but that seemed awfully small). Shortly after departure, it started to rain, and each cyclist whipped out rain gear. This section of trail was not as well marked, and we overshot Round Lake (we did see the cut-off for it on our way back though). We returned about 5 PM, and tore down camp before heading off to a festive group dinner at the Big Buck Steakhouse in Caylord (line like being exposed to real food again).

## PIGEON RIVER—A REBUTTAL

By Amy Barber

No, this trip was not just another beer commercial. There were subtleties at Pigeon River that take a sensitive mind. I, too, got a some great hiking, biking, and camping but it also was **so much more**.

- Have you ever arrived at your campsite, gotten out of a stale car, and breathed in the most glorious smell of balsam? We did, and raved about the beauty and

magnificence of the balsam at 1:00 am. Getting out of our tents in the morning sunshine, we discovered how good *pine* can smell.

- I learned that whip-poor-wills are nocturnal goatsuckers and only sing at night. John learned that white throated sparrows, with their clear, mournful song, also will sing at night.
- I learned some mountain biking terms: Dab, Bif, and Erdo. Dab is a touchdown of one of your hind legs to regain balance, and Bif and Erdo are helmet moves.
- I learned some people make others give their bearings in French while trying to talk on the radio and karak.
- I learned June bugs are fun to spotlight and taunt with a headlamp. As I was headed to the outhouse in the dark, I heard its loud buzz. I was merely trying to get it in view so it wouldn't bite me unexpectedly. All of a sudden, I caught it head-on with my light and about a foot and a half in front of my face, I saw two tiny, bright orange devil eyes glaring at me. It started bobbing up and down in a hideous fashion, and I could see how furiously it was beating its wings. I wanted to let out a bloodcurdling scream, but controlled myself.

More things: entertainment can be as simple as waiting for elk to appear at the elk-viewing site (we were unsuccessful) while listening to wood thrushes, occasionally remembering to search for morels at this prime location and time, identifying moccasin flowers and speculating on their masculine anatomy, and frequently spotting the rose-breasted grosbeak, a common bird in that area with a beautiful song.

To be fair, it was Danno who wanted to write an article detailing his spiritual connection with Pigeon River. All that was lost when the brutal editor made him cut his copy from five pages to one. Sorry, Danno! Them's life's breaks! *But you were such a sensitive trip leader...*

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fossil Hunt

July 24-25, 1999, or make it a one-day trip on July 25.

Join us for the Annual Fossil Hunt and adventures in Arkona, Canada! This has been a very popular outing for SOLAR members and their friends (*it is a non-SOLAR event*) to catch a bit of prehistory—yes, you can take a limited supply of fossils home to top your collection of driftwood, seashells, and other trip memorabilia. The hunt will take place on Sunday in the Rock Glen Conservation Area. The usual plan is to get wet (and cool!) during the hunt so dress appropriately. Lunch will be potluck style so bring your favorite potluck pickins'.

On Saturday, July 24, Jim Gilfix will lead a visit to the waterfalls in the Godrich area for those who are camping nearby or staying in a motel.

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The cost of the fossil hunt is free -- you pay for lodging fees, park entry fees, and the food costs. Arkona is a 2 1/2 hour drive from Detroit and well-worth the drive.

**CONTACT JIM GILFIX** at the July meeting for more info and sign-up or call Jim at 734/513-9460.




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INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

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SOLAR club activities are open to SOLAR club members only. But it's easy to join! For more information, **contact Mary Price** at 248/477-7547.

## LEELENAU STATE PARK CAMPING WEEKEND



*Also, Hiking/Biking/Beach/Winery*

August 20-22, 1999, Karen Bates will lead a trip to the tip of the Leelenau peninsula for a weekend of hiking, **biking**, swimming, **building sand castles**, beachcombing, **touring a lighthouse**, shopping in Traverse City, cookouts, **campfires**, and the activity of choice for Saturday, **winery tours** on Old Mission and Leelenau Peninsulas!

Sunday will feature the Bates brunch -- you have to go the trip to experience this!

**COST:** \$10 per person, plus the cost of a State Park vehicle permit. There may be an additional fee/donation cost for the lighthouse tour.

Space is limited so **contact Karen** for info at 810/323-1436.

## MORE PADDLE NEWS

### 1999 SOLAR/DEFRANCE CANOE OUTING

This annual get-together near Hale, Michigan, is an event not to be missed! It all starts on Friday night, August 13, around the campfire at the DeFrance's cabin. There is plenty of room for car-camping on their wooded lot with outhouse facilities. Saturday is a free day to explore the area on foot or bike, go for a swim or kayak in Jose Lake (pronounced Joe's although you can pronounce it Hose-ay if you prefer), play volleyball, or hang out in the cabin. Sunday is the canoe trip down the beautiful Au Sable River, lasting somewhere around five hours with a break for lunch midway. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes the cost of the canoe (assuming two people per canoe), breakfast on Saturday morn, and camping. Bring a dish to pass for a traditional Saturday eve potluck, summer toys and games, and your charm.

**Contact Laura Albin** at 810/229-8283 or [albinla@pilot.msu.edu](mailto:albinla@pilot.msu.edu) or see her at the monthly meeting!

## Smashed on North Manitou Island

By Teri Simandi

"What did you say? No chain saws?" inquired our eager crew as ranger, Jeff Monroe, passed out handsaws and gave us an overview of the work to be done on the trails. The trails were described as looking like a tornado just passed through. Seven SOLAR members took the ferry from Leland to North Manitou Island and spent Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, clearing fallen trees from several miles of trails. We had a friendly team that worked well together so trip! Tom was on hand. Pat and Rick got two-man saw. Reggie cuts, and scrapes by while Teri kept busy. Dave was described by a never quit John crew went down to the clear another section of hard work was done for



it was a very enjoyable service with his first aid kit just in case overzealous with the five-foot prevented many head injuries, functioning as our lookout hauling brush off the trails. crewmember as a beaver that couldn't get enough after the beach to relax and went on to trail on his own. After all the the day, we headed down to

Rita's for appetizers and drinks. Rita is the last person left with a private residence on the island. She entertained us with her story and several of us bought her book entitled North Manitou Island. After departing Rita's, we were treated to dinner at the ranger's place. The hospitality and graciousness we experienced were heart-warming. Rumor has it, though, that you don't want to drink Rita's 'Island Smash' and then try to climb trees!

### BIKING AND ALL THAT JAZZ

On July 15, Thursday eve, there will be a group bike from Debbie Wood's house in Harper Woods to a free outdoor concert in Grosse Pointe. The performers will be George Benson, Charlie Gabriel, and Jim Wyse, otherwise known as the three jazz terors. This is billed as a jazz enthusiast's dream. The bike trip is approximately 12 miles along city streets. A stop at an ice cream shop will follow the concert, and you have the option of riding along Lakeshore Drive on the return trip. The leave time from Debbie's is 6:45 PM, arriving fashionably late to the concert. If you prefer to catch the beginning of the concert, meet you there! There is no fee for this trip. Debbie will provide maps. For more info, call Debbie at 313/521-2891.

### July, August, September—Kayaking with SOLAR

Kayaked lately? Never kayaked? Don't own a kayak?...Call Matt Dalton!!! I am putting together a list of SOLAR members who like to kayak. We will go paddling after work when there is enough interest and on several Saturdays and Sundays. I will make this list of SOLAR kayakers available to people on the list and anyone interested in kayaking. We may even have a Kayak Interest Group Party before the year is over.

We'll go paddling, exploring Michigan lakes and rivers and go surf kayaking on the Great Lakes! You don't even have to have your own kayak. I have 4 kayaks that I will provide to people without boats. No charge from me—an optional \$10 contribution to SOLAR would be appreciated (checks should be made out to SOLAR).

On weekdays, trips will be to local Oakland County lakes, including Orchard Lake, Cass Lake, Proud Lake, and Walled Lake. For weekend trips we can go to Kensington, Lake Erie, Lake Michigan, the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair, Harsons Island, and Saginaw Bay. Picnics and dinner after paddling will be part of most trips. A few overnight trips may be planned. Call Matt Dalton at 248/350-1611 and let me know your interests and experience.

*Wednesday Kayaking**by Daniel "Duano" Merchant*

I tried Sea Kayaking for the first time, last August. I was so moved by the experience, that I bought a boat of my own a month later. There are no mariners in my family, so buying a kayak was a pretty brave statement for me (it also played havoc with my finances too!). When I bought my boat, I worried that I would have to place limits on my kayak outings because I would not have anyone to paddle with. This spring, Sharon Broderick asked me to help her organize a series of Wednesday night kayak outings. We went public at the June General Meeting, and had our first outing a day later.

Five boats showed up for a paddle of Walled Lake, the largest regatta of kayaks I had ever participated in. All of them were viable touring boats- not a glorified pool toy in the fleet. We launched from Sharon's condo complex, and paddled north. There was a strong breeze coming out of the west. The paddle east was exciting to paddle as there were strong waves coming from behind us. The eastern end of the lake had whitecaps, and made for a challenging paddle south across the whitecaps. The return leg west was a blast, with the boats planing their way through the waves. We repeated the north leg, and beached at a park next door to Bogie's Restaurant, where some of us had dinner. It was dark, when we left Bogie's. I had never paddled in the dark before. A moonlight paddle would have been an experience. Instead we got light pollution from Twelve Oaks Mall spilling over the southern tree line. It was still a cool experience.

Our second group paddle was at Lake Orion. Only three boats this time, but a nice size to paddle with. The lake has lots of bays and peninsulas, that vary between being wild to being overbuilt. We tried to paddle a stream that appeared to connect with Indianwood Lake, but it got too shallow. We also accidentally violated the territory of a pair of swans taking their swanlings (*ed. note: cygnets*) out for a swim. Papa swan was so annoyed with our presence that he failed to notice one of the baby swan-lings take off for some unauthorized exploring. Eventually he granted us safe passage. We explored bays, peninsulas, islands, and bridges,

until a light rain fell. We would have stayed longer, but thunder and lightning in the distance encouraged us to head in. The sun came out as we beached the boats, and headed off in search of food. Our next two paddles will be up the Huron River from Milford into Proud Lake, and on Williams Lakes. As the summer progresses, we will pick other lakes and rivers to explore. There may be some day paddles as well. You can join us if you have a kayak with all of the Coast Guard mandated safety equipment.

### **Laser Tag 1998 Challenge II SKIWI SKI CLUB vs. SOLAR CLUB**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Laser Tag Challenge is complete. Who won? We played three games. The first was a warm-up so that everyone could get used to the guns. No teams yet, just individual warriors. The top three warriors were Harry Kroll, Mike Goatley, and Jim Gilfix. Then it was time to begin the challenge. In Game 2, the SKIWI's (I was on their team) went after the SOLAR tower. Laser blasts hit us, and then we returned fire, hitting them. When we all emerged from the battleground, we found that SOLAR team had won game two, with a score of 2032 to 1927. The top three gunners were Jeff Enterkin, John Green of SKIWI, and Jim Gilfix. Now it was down to the last battle. The clubs took their towers. The battle was on. Laser fights all over the field. We fired upon the SOLAR tower, hitting them, and they hit us in return. We had to keep on our toes. There were many battles all around us. But only one team can be the winner. We emerged again from the battlefield to find that the SOLAR team had won again, 4334 to 3387. They also had taken the top six spots. The top three gunners were Len Enterkin, Leslie Cordova, and Stewart Maynard. Well, we all had a blast, and the pop and pizza disappeared. Until we meet next year- -on the battlefield.—Jeff Enterkin

## AUGUST RATTLESNAKE

August 6-8, 1999 and SOLAR fun

It's the Annual August Rattlesnake weekend at Rattlesnake Point in Milton, Ontario. On this weekend, everyone camps on a grassy hillside with access to outhouses, hot showers, and even flush toilets. SOLAR tradition includes the **buffalo shuffle** (an early morning hike on Saturday to see REAL buffalo), a **bicycle race**, and the **competitive cook-off**, in which all food preparation must occur on the premises. Previous years' winners have been awarded for their culinary imagination. The feast following the cook-off is a real treat. Although you may choose not to enter the contest, all campers bring a dish to pass.

On Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, we will drive to Crawford Lake Conservation Area, a short drive away. Crawford Lake is a basin atop the Niagara Escarpment, the most significant landform in southern Ontario. Here you will see limestone cliffs, woodlands, wetlands, and the lake, an ecologically unusual formation itself. Studies of the sediment, which can be accurately dated back 1000 years, led to the discovery of one of the most accurately dated **Iroquoian villages** in Canada. A reconstructed 15<sup>th</sup> century village is located at this site. Here we will visit Wolf Clan's Longhouse Learning Center.

Another trip we will take is to the Spencer Gorge Wilderness Area. This Y-shaped gorge is fed by two creeks, Spencer and Logie's, each of which plunges over the Escarpment in a waterfall. We'll hike along the Bruce Trail, perhaps stopping at the Kelso Conservation Area for a swim and then head back to camp to begin cooking.

On the way home Sunday, we will visit the **African Lion Safari** near Cambridge, Ontario, and see the lions, tigers, monkeys, plains animals, and water animal habitats. For an extra \$5 you can even ride on an elephant! It should be a great camping weekend with a fun ending! See **Jim Gilfix** at the August meeting for info and details or call him at 734/513-9460.

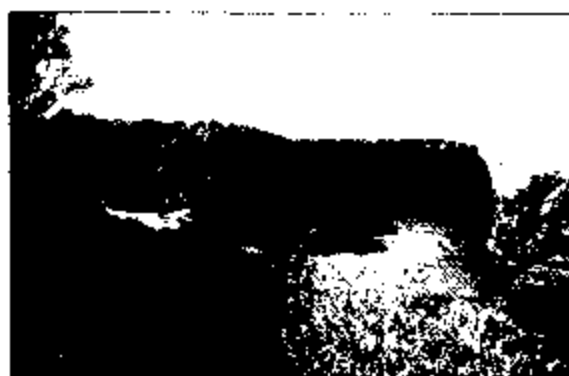


## SEA KAYAK ADVENTURE ON LAKE SUPERIOR

You've hiked on top of the gorgeous Pictured Rocks along the National Lakeshore Trail (or perhaps, you've always wanted to!), but probably you realized you weren't getting the whole picture. Now is your chance to see the other view, and not just from a tour boat. We will kayak the emerald waters of Lake Superior along the mineral-streaked sandstone cliffs of Pictured Rocks. Grand Island National Recreation Area is the setting for the trip with the Pictured Rocks Lakeshore just across the open water. Located just west of Munising, this 8 mile by 3 mile island in Lake Superior is full of hiking opportunities with beautiful wooded trails and deserted shorelines.

No experience is necessary for the trip, although you should be in good physical condition to endure 5-6 hours per day of kayaking. Professional, highly trained guides will provide expert instruction, guidance, and leadership. All kayaking gear and kayaks will be supplied, as well as all meals!

Plan to arrive Thursday night as we will begin kayaking Friday. There are two separate trips being offered and the groups will remain small. For the August 12-15 trip there is one space available, and there is still space on the August 26-29 trip. The cost is \$255.00 and includes not only the guided tour and gear but all your meals and hotel lodging for Thursday night. See Lisa Boose at the next meeting for sign-up and details or call her at 248/681-3617.





## Activities Calendar

### July 6—General Membership Meeting

Colony Hall, Southfield

### July 9-11—Rattlesnake Provincial Park

Milton, Ontario

Laura Albin, 810/229-8283

### July 16-18—Whitewater Rafting

Lower New River, W. Virginia

Lisa Boose, 248/681-3617

### July 22-25—Sea Kayak Symposium

Grand Marais, Michigan

Matt Dalton, 248/360-1611

### July 24-25—9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fossil Hunt

Arkona, Canada

Jim Gilfix, 734/513-9460

### July 28 Trip Planning Seminar

Benchmark, Farmington

Harry Price, 248/477-7547

### August 3—General Membership Meeting

Colony Hall, Southfield

### August 6-8—Leadership and Team Building

TBA

Harry Price, 248/477-7547

### August 6-8—Rattlesnake Provincial Park

Milton, Ontario

Jim Gilfix, 734/513-9460

### August 12-15—Guided Sea Kayak Trip

Grand Island Rec. Area

Lisa Boose, 248/681-3617

### August 14-16—10<sup>th</sup> De France Canoe Outing

Au Sable River

Laura Albin, 810/229-8283

### August 20-22—Hiking/Biking/Beach/Winery

Leelenau Peninsula

Karen Bates, 810/323-1436

### August 26-29—Guided Sea Kayak Trip

Grand Island Rec. Area

Lisa Boose, 248/681-3617



Some previously unpublished photos....



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Do you have any trip ideas for the club  
but don't know how to get started? Contact  
Leslie Cordova, Activities Director, at 248/547-5626.  
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# THE SOLAR RAY

## STEERING COMMITTEE

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| President        | Doug Lanyk     |
| Vice President   | Karen Bates    |
| Secretary        | Ted Huff       |
| Treasurer        | John Moffat    |
| Activities       | Leslie Cordova |
| Membership       | Mary Price     |
| Equipment        | Rick Merryman  |
| By-Laws          | Laura Albin    |
| Education        | Harry Price    |
| Publication      | Amy Barber     |
| Historian        | John Fedyk     |
| Programs         | Juli Penrod    |
| Public Relations | Mike Banks     |

## AT LARGE

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Sue Gardner          | Al Fylak       |
| Cindy Harrison-Felix | Larry Martin   |
| Joan & Bob Westbrook | Mo DeFrance    |
| Joan Ryan            | Bill Halvengis |
| Peg Campbell         |                |

The SOLAR CLUB is a non-profit organization of people interested in promoting appreciation of outdoor activities through education and practical experience. The club offers educational programs and various activities which are listed inside. We sponsor trips as well as informal gatherings to provide the exchange of expertise, experiences, and information. All of these contribute to fellowship among the membership. SOLAR Club activities will enhance and further the skills and information taught in the basic and more advanced classes through active participation.

**For more information about SOLAR:**  
SOLAR CLUB HOTLINE  
24-hour Voice Mail (248)938-6658  
or <http://members.tripod.com/~solarclub>

### 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 12 days after the general meeting for the following month's edition. Contributions in the form of upcoming events, comments, trip reports, recipes, photos, and original articles are welcome. Send all contributions to **Amy Barber, SOLAR Ray Editor, 6921 Lakeview Blvd., #3311, Westland, MI 48185, 734/595-4599 or amykay86@yahoo.com**

**Meeting Location**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Colony Hall, located at 21780 Evergreen Rd., between 8 and 9 Mile Roads in Southfield at 7:30 PM. **Visitors can attend meetings for free.** Membership dues are:

**\$30 individual, annually**  
**\$150 individual, lifetime**  
**\$45 family, annually**  
**\$225 family, lifetime**



**SOLAR CLUB**  
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*The School Of Outdoor Leadership, Adventure & Recreation*