



School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure, and Recreation www.SOLARoutdoors.org

Tastes of Tuscany

Photos by Pete Lamb

In the middle of June fourteen assorted SOLARites and family members gathered together in Tuscany, Italy for a two week trip. Residing at a farmhouse in three different apartments there, they used this as a base for traveling to various areas within the region. These photos are just a sample of what they experienced.

Hiking in Tuscany



Celebrating the Hike

(Nenay, Gloria, Sue, Cindy, Debbie, and Winnie)



But then it got hot!

(Mike, Debbie, Bill, Sue, Wendy, Gloria, Al & Winnie)

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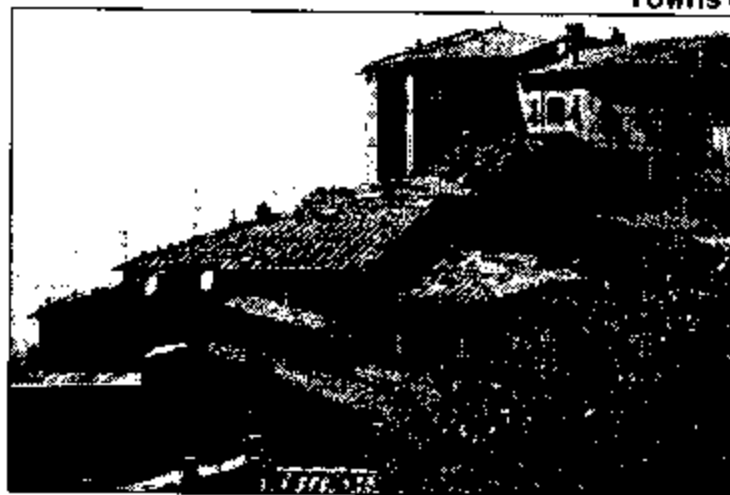


What is this Poggibonsi? Whatever, we made it to there.

(Cindy, Sue, Gloria, Mike, Wendy, Sue T., Al, Winnie, Pete, & Bill)

Tastes of Tuscany (cont'd)

Towns of Tuscany

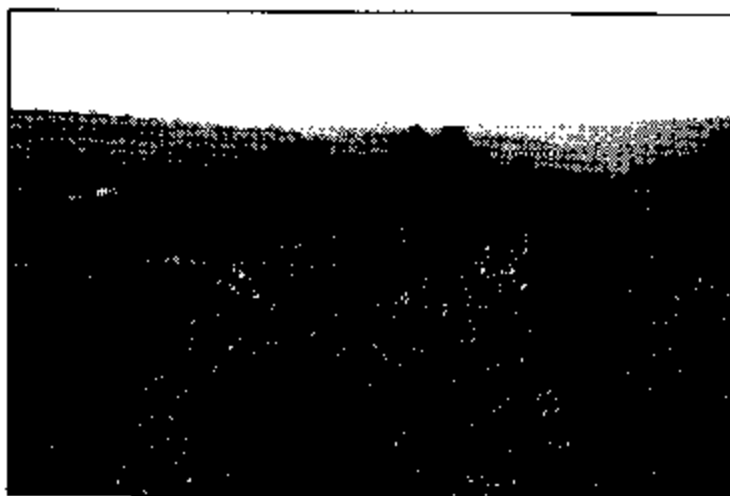


Roofs of Volterra



Towers of San Gimignano

Scenes of Tuscany



SOLAR AUGUST 2005 CALENDAR

School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure & Recreation

JUNE 2005 TRIP LEADER DRAWING WINNER JONNIE KOSTISHAK, KAL-HAVEN BIKE TRIP

AUGUST ACTIVITIES

2	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
2	TUE	PROGRAM: Michigan and the Ice Age		Linda Rodrick	indamra@aol.com
13-21	MULTI	Kayaking Trip	Apostle Islands, L. Superior	Matt Dalton	mdalton@ameritech.net
21-27	MULTI	Cabin Camping, Hiking, Canoeing, etc.	Adirondacks, NY	Don Wold	

AUGUST CLASSES

10	WED	Lightweight Backpacking Class	EMS	Dave Sweeton	davesw@provide.net 734-475-3082
Aug 17, 24, Sep 7, 14, 17-18, 21, 28, Sep 30-Oct 2	MULTI	SOLAR Basic Backpacking Class	EMS	Carol McCririe	cmccririe@sbcglobal.net

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

6	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
6	TUE	PROGRAM: Nature and Wildlife Photography		Linda Rodrick	indamra@aol.com
17	SAT	Autumn Party and Paddle**	Proud Lake State Park	Alan Heavner/Margaret Martin	AlanHeavner@eavnercanoe.com
17	SAT	Nordhouse Dunes cleanup	Nordhouse Dunes	Vida Ruggero	raget@hotmail.com
24	SAT	Hoedown	Millford	Dave & Mac DeFrance	moecefrance@comcast.net

SEPTEMBER CLASSES

Sept. 28, Oct. 1-2, 5	WED/WKND	Advanced Land Navigation Class	EMS/ Waterloo	K. Overheul	cybernomad@backpacker.com
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OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

4	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
4	TUE	PROGRAM: SOLAR Trip Presentation: Tuscany, Italy		Linda Rodrick	indamra@aol.com
16	SUN	Pumpkin Party and Paddle**	Proud Lake State Park	Alan Heavner/Margaret Martin	AHeavner@Heavnercanoe.com
Oct. 31- Nov 5	MU LTI	Archeological Survey**	DeSoto National Forest, Miss.	Chip Kleinbrook & Gloria Fontaine	mrchip1234@aol.com

OCTOBER CLASSES

12, 15-16	WED/WKND	Basic Land Navigation Class	EMS/ Waterloo	Karl Overheul	cybernomad@backpacker.com
5, 12, 19	WED	Search & Rescue Class	Eastpointe HS	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/CLASSES

Feb 17-19, 2006	WKND	Outhouse Race	Caseville, Michigan	Perni Lopez	kavekrawler@yahoo.com 248-250-3732
April 13-22, 2006	MULTI	Caribbean Trip**	St. John, Virgin Islands	Jim Gessner	gessnerj@prodigy.net

FOR INFORMATION ON JOINING THE SOLAR CLUB, CONTACT PENNI LOPEZ (248) 336-2911, kavekrawler@yahoo.com OR VISIT WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP PLAN AND/OR LEAD A SOLAR ACTIVITY, CONTACT KEVIN COTTER (243) 544-9637 OR SEND EMAIL TO kdcotter@wowway.com
SOLAR HAS A NO-REFUND POLICY. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN ACTIVITY YOU MAY "SELL YOUR SPOT" TO ANOTHER CLUB MEMBER
** DENOTES NON-SOLAR ACTIVITY (Solar will not be held responsible for these activities)

SOLAR Program Schedule
From the SOLAR Program Director
Linda Rodrick

AUGUST PROGRAM: Michigan and the Ice Age

By John Zawiskie (Geologist, Cranbrook Institute of Science)

You won't want to miss this presentation on the glacial and natural history of Southeast Michigan. John's presentations are known to be both entertaining and informative. We'll learn how some plants and animals returned after the ice age and about the extinction of some larger animals between 11,000 and 10,000 years ago. John is planning to bring some of the fossil evidence along with him.



UPCOMING SOLAR PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER: How to Photograph Nature

By Julia Gordon (Solar member and Washtenaw Community College photography instructor and nature photographer.)

In this interesting and informative presentation, Julia will show slides and discuss creative techniques to help you improve your nature photography skills. Some of the topics covered will be composition, depth of field, color schemes and motion. This program is designed to help photographers of all skill levels and imaging formats (film or digital) learn new ways to achieve spectacular images!

OCTOBER: Solar Trip Presentation: Tuscany, Italy

By Pete Lamb & other Solar Trip Participants

Please note: All programs take place at Colony Hall immediately following the SOLAR business meeting.

Solar Club Hikes for August

Sunday, August 7th, Pinckney State Rec. Area. US-23, West on N. Territorial Rd., Meet Silver Lake Beach parking lot. Hiking Trail difficulty: Easy to moderate.

Sunday, August 7th Pinckney State Recreation Area, as listed in the July Ray.

Saturday, August 13th Kensington Metro Park. Meet at the Nature Center, past the golf course, take I- 96 to Kensington Road Exit.

Sunday, August 21, Waterloo Recreation Area, Jackson County, Meet at the Geology Center.

Saturday, August 27th, Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area, North of M-59/ Highland Road. Meet at the Beach Parking Lot.

Sunday, September 4th, Labor Day Weekend, Maybury State Park, Northville, Meet at the 8 Mile entrance parking lot.

Contact Matt Dalton, mdalton@ameritech.net or 248 360 0031 to lead, or participate in any of the above listed hikes.



GEAR USE RULES & GUIDELINES

by Dave DeFrance



1. Equipment is for use by current dues paid members only.
2. All the equipment that the club has is available to be borrowed by a member, with the exception of rock climbing and caving equipment.
 - Rock climbing equipment is available through the current SOLAR rock climbing instructor and can be checked out dependent on experience. (This is Pete Lamb 248-644-5831, petekandu@yahoo.com) He travels a lot so plan early.
 - Caving equipment is available through Leslie Cordova (248-547-5626, lesliegene@aol.com) only to be used for SOLAR caving outings or caving classes.
 - Leslie also has hiking poles (not owned by Solar) for evaluation. She has a wide variety of Gabel poles that you can use for the price of filling out an eval form.

That leaves camping equipment mostly. A current inventory is posted on the SOLAR group site and is included following these guidelines.

1. The member must have taken the backpacking class or shown proficiency in backpacking activity to borrow backpacking equipment. The Equipment Manager (Dave and Maureen De France, 517-552-3660, dfrance@unex.comcast.net or moeedfrance@comcast.net) will determine if the person is qualified to borrow the equipment.
2. All classes have priority over the equipment while the class is in session.
3. The Equipment Manager will track who borrows equipment. The equipment is on a first come - first serve basis to be borrowed.
4. A deposit of \$250.00 for the first two items borrowed is required prior to borrowing it for a predetermined length of time. That time will be determined between the equipment manager and the borrowing member. Generally, the equipment is due back at the monthly SOLAR meeting immediately following your activity or, returned to the equipment manager personally within 5 days of your activity. A deposit of \$50 is required for each additional item over two borrowed. Failure to return equipment in good condition, in a timely manner, or not at all could result in forfeiture of some or all of your deposit.

David De France
517-294-2333

Am I Early or Late—or Where Am I?

by Michael Hubig

I learned this early June when we played hooky and hiked the Pottawatomie trail.

If you thought you were going to be late and you're the first one in the parking lot, you can't believe your luck that you're actually not late and you're the first one there. You are probably in the wrong spot, you probably are late, and you better look around before you sit and wait for the other to arrive.

This also can happen if you actually are the first to arrive. On a winter camping trip folks arrive so early their tracks were covered by snow. The trip leaders arriving later thought they were the first ones in and stopped near the entrance to look for the group. Everyone stopped near them and all wondered where the others could be. They were just in the next parking lot.

It is best to look around if you start thinking everyone is late when you know you arrive early.

Solar Club Equipment Inventory

A. TENTS

1. Eureka Timberline (4 person)
3. REI Clipper (sleeps 2)
5. Sierra Design Clip Flashlight (sleeps 1-2)
7. REI Convert winter (sleeps 2)
9. Mtn Hardware Windlight (sleeps 2)

2. REI Clipper (2 person)
4. Sierra Design Clip Flashlight (sleeps 1-2)
6. MSR Sidewinder (sleeps 2)
8. Eureka Apex (sleeps 2)

B. BACKPACKS

1. Kelty Yukon/Klondike (ext frame)
3. Kelty Trekker (ext frame-gray)
5. Lowe Alpine Outback (int frame-green)
7. Lowe Alpine Outback 70 (int frame-purple)
9. REI Cima 80 (int frame-gray)
11. REI Cima 60 (int frame-gray)
13. Lowe Coutour 3 (int frame-blue)
15. Gregory (int frame)
17. EMS Internal Frame (Lt Blue)
19. EMS Internal Frame (Lt Blue)

2. Eureka Eagle (ext frame-gray)
4. Lowe Alpine Outback (int frame-blue)
6. Lowe Alpine Outback 70 (int frame-green)
8. Camp Trails McKinley (ext frame-red/black)
10. REI Cima 80 (int frame-gray)
12. REI Trekker Wonderland (ext frame)
14. Lowe Vision 40 (int frame-green)
16. EMS Internal Frame (Lt Blue)
18. EMS Internal Frame (Lt Blue)

C. SLEEPING BAGS

1. Polarguard HV 30 deg (blue)
3. Polarguard HV 30 deg (blue)
5. Iron Mtn 20 degree long (blue)
7. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree long left
9. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree long left
11. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree reg right
13. Thermarest pad
15. Thermarest pad
17. Ridgerest pad
19. EMS crash pad w/repair kit
21. Thermarest in EMS crash pad sack

2. Polarguard HV 30 deg (blue)
4. REI 20 deg (maroon)
6. Iron Mtn 20 degree long (blue)
8. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree long left
10. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree reg right
12. Moonstone Maxima 0 degree reg right
14. Thermarest pad
16. Thermarest pad
18. Ridgerest pad
20. EMS crash pad w/repair kit

D. FIRST AID KITS (For use by class instructors and trip leaders only)

1. Outdoor Research (red)
3. Adventure Medical Backcountry (blue)
5. (No Name) First Aid Kit

2. Adventure Medical Backcountry (blue)
4. Adventure Medical Backcountry (blue)

E. STOVES/WATER FILTERS

1. Whisperlite Stove/16 oz fuel
3. Optimus 99 stove (for demo)
5. MSR Water works filter
7. Pur Hiker water filter

2. Whisperlite Stove/22 oz fuel
4. MSR Water works filter
6. Pur Hiker water filter

F. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Snow Shovels (4-coal type)
3. Volley Ball - net - pump
5. Moss Parafly (tan)
7. Kmart Dining Fly (2-blue)
9. MSR Vistawing
11. MRS Snowshoes w/4 inch tails
13. TV/VCR W/remote
15. Cobra radios w/chargers (4)
17. Water rescue ropes (2)

2. RCA Camcorder
4. Snowshoes 1-pr. W/bindings
6. Campmore Parafly (2-blue)
8. MSR Parawing
10. MRS Snowshoes w/6 inch tails
12. Snow shovels/snow claws - various for winter
14. Midland Radios w/chargers (4)
16. Garmin GPS (3)
18. Coleman Northstar Lanterns (4)

SOLAR Beginning Backpacking Course — Fall 2005

by Carol McCrie

Coming in September is one of SOLAR's most popular classes, the Beginning Backpacking Class. Beginning Backpacking teaches basics about trip planning, equipment, food, and other backpacking issues. It also gives you hands on experience at practicals, fun times, and new friends.

This class is for those of you that a) never backpacked and have always wanted to try it, b) new members that need the class as a prerequisite for other advanced classes or just to meet people, or c) members who just want a refresher or need an excuse to backpack.



- **Class Dates.** Class begins August 17 and runs for six weeks with a break for Labor Day week. (8/24, 8/31, 9/14, 9/21 and 9/28). The weekend practicals are September 17-18 and September 30-October 2. Class time is from 6 to 9 pm.
- **Requirements.** In order to get a certificate for the class, you need to participate on a weekly basis and complete the entire 1st practical in September. The certificate for the class qualifies you for the Intermediate and Advanced Backpacking Classes, Wilderness Canoeing, and Enjoying Michigan Winters.
- **Locations.** Locations for the classes and practicals are to be announced. However, we traditionally do our final practical at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Stay tuned for final information at the July SOLAR meeting.
- **Prerequisites.** The only prerequisite for the class is that you are a current paid member of SOLAR and that you are interested in new experiences, new friends, or both!

Space is limited so sign up and pay early. The cost of the class is \$100 and includes a textbook, a class handbook, and most fees related to Practical 1. Please bring cash or a check payable to "SOLAR" when you sign up (Sorry, no credit cards.) This will guarantee your spot in the class.

Any questions regarding the class should be directed to Carol McCrie at (810) 523-0132 or cmccrie@sbcglobal.net.

S.O.L.A.R., Where have you been?

One of the items included in the S.O.L.A.R. archives that I received when I took over as Historian is a S.O.L.A.R. banner that has a number of dates and locations written on it telling when and where S.O.L.A.R. banners have been carried. This gave me an idea for a project I would like to do this year. I would like to begin a pictorial record of S.O.L.A.R. trips and classes.

If you have any S.O.L.A.R. group pictures that include a S.O.L.A.R. banner, I would appreciate your sending a copy to me for the archives. Please identify the date, location, trip or class involved, and the names of the people in the picture if possible. If you have S.O.L.A.R. group pictures that do not include a banner, I would like those as well.

If you would like to include an additional picture or two for context, that will also be appreciated. If we receive enough material, our hope is to prepare a slide show for the upcoming 30th anniversary of S.O.L.A.R.

Please forward your pictures, either hard copy or digitally, to:

Dick Ebenhoe

3841 Hipp Street

Dearborn, MI 48124

riebehoe@yahoo.com

Thanks in advance for your contributions!



Fall Archeology Trip

Chip Kleinbrook and Gloria Fontaine are leading the **FIRST TAX DEDUCTIBLE SOLAR TRIP!!!** Oct. 31 to Nov. 5.

Since the project is to assist the US Forest Service in archeological surveys, your travel expenses **MAY** be deductible. See your tax advisor for details.

WHO: SOLAR members but selection is **NOT** assured since the USFS project leaders reserve the right to select volunteers. SOLAR members will try to coordinate the application process, and once selected, we will work together to get the most effective arrangements.

WHERE: Mississippi – De Soto NF

WHAT: A Return Journey through Time at Gopher Nation Path: Excavations and Field Lab

WHEN: October 31 – November 5 (including weekends)

Must commit to 1 full session, may commit to more.

The Gopher Nation Path site is one of those stratified sites that gets archaeologists all excited. (Or as one PIT volunteer put it last year, it makes the archaeologist's pant legs roll up and down like a window shade in excitement!) The deposits, which date from A.D. 900 to 7000 B.C. are relatively undisturbed and neatly stratified, with the newest materials on the top and each subsequent layer older, and easily discernable, from the layer above it. Last October, PIT volunteers helped us excavate 67 1-meter-by-1-meter units over three weeks at the site and uncovered more than 12,000 artifacts. The heavy density of artifacts, the clearly stratified deposits, and the frequency of rare artifacts make this site not only exciting, but extremely important for understanding this time period and clarifying or confirming results of excavations of other sites in the area. Despite these facts, only 1.5 percent of the site has been tested.

This October, we will extend the old excavation units in order to help better understand the site activities through time, especially during the extensive Middle Woodland (200 B.C. A.D.500), Late Archaic (2500–1000 B.C. Middle Archaic (6000–“2500B.C.), and Early Archaic (8000–“6000 B.C.) occupations. Over the three weeks, we will dig another 60”70 1 by 1-m units to recover artifacts and radiocarbon samples. Initial processing of the artifacts will take place in the field and will include washing, weighing, and labeling the excavated materials.

Number of openings: 30 per session

Special skills: Must have legible handwriting; the ability to understand long, complicated, and largely unnecessary archaeological jargon, and a good sense of humor

Minimum age: 14 years old; under 13 with a responsible adult

Facilities: Reduced fee camping for PIT volunteers at Paul B. Johnson State Park, with water, electricity; motels and hotels in Hattiesburg and Wiggins; cabins at Paul B. Johnson; limited services in Brooklyn

Nearest towns: Project in Brooklyn; Hattiesburg, 15 miles; Wiggins, 15 miles

Applications due: August 15

Contact Chip at mrchip1234@aol.com no later than July 15 to receive application instructions

What Are the Odds?

by Dick Ebenhoe

In the past 100 years there have been fewer than 30 documented attacks by wild wolves on humans in North America. Only two people have died - both by contracting rabies from wolf bites.

There were 43 attacks by mountain lions between 1981 and 2000. Eight of them were fatal.

There are an estimated 25 black bear attacks a year in North America. Only one of those attacks is fatal about every three years.

By comparison, domestic dogs bite 1 million people and kill 16 to 18 people every year in the United States.


YEEE-HA!


Let's do it again. It's time for the third annual hoe-down




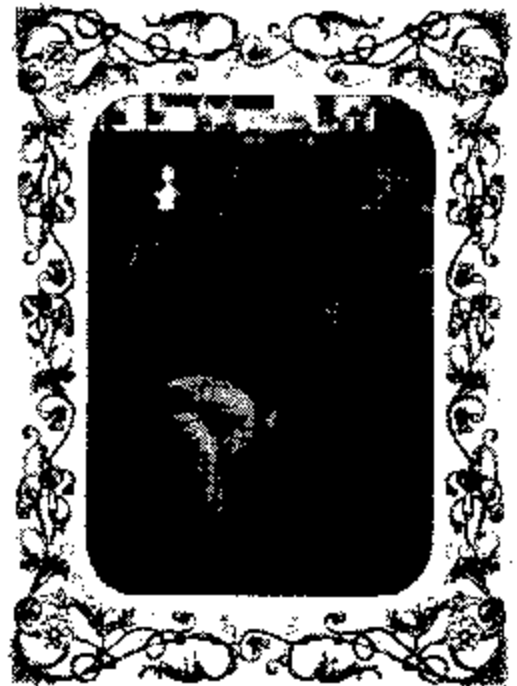
Come and join in for an old fashioned COUNTRY HOE-DOWN

- WHEN:** Saturday September 24, 2005
TIME: 8-Midnight. Do not be late. This is a team sport.
WHERE: Directions to the Lazy J are below
COST: \$20 per person. Limit is 80 people.
INCLUDES: 100+ year old barn, caller and enough fun to knock your socks off.
YOU SHOULD: Bring your own pass around snacks (Hors D'oeuvre) and drinks (liquor allowed)
Dress appropriately. Jeans, boots, handkerchiefs, checkered shirts. Layer as we will get hot.

 The Lazy J Ranch is truly a one of a kind facility located in the beautiful farming area of Milford, Michigan. The two-story barn was built at the turn of the century and provides a wonderful old fashion atmosphere. Originally built as a dairy barn, the Lazy "J" has been restored and converted into two square dance halls operating year round, complete with indoor restrooms. **We have the old hay loft reserved.**

 The evening is a full program of square dancing and mixers designed for the fun and enjoyment of beginners only. No prior knowledge of square dancing is necessary, nor expected.

 The Lazy "J" Ranch Hands will be available from the time of your arrival to smoothly handle every detail of the evening. The square dance caller orchestrates the entire program of events ensuring a relaxing and memorable experience for everyone.



For directions to the Lazy J, see the June SOLAR Ray.

Kevin Cotter will be announcing, distributing flyers, taking sign-ups and collecting funds this month for the Hoe Down on Sept 24. Make your check out to SOLAR for \$20. There is a maximum of 80 people. That sounds like a lot of people, but we have sold out the last two years.

Join us at the 5th Annual Shanty Days Outhouse Races!

When: February 18 - 20th, 2006
Where: Caseville, Michigan Town Center Festival Races at County Park
What to do: Join the Outhouse Run on Sat. the 19th, and have 2 of our brave SOLARites race our homemade outhouse down a 300 ft. ice or snow path to a victory that will give us cash back, sweatshirts, and maybe some chamber of commerce autographed toilet paper! (WELL, the upers do it that way!)

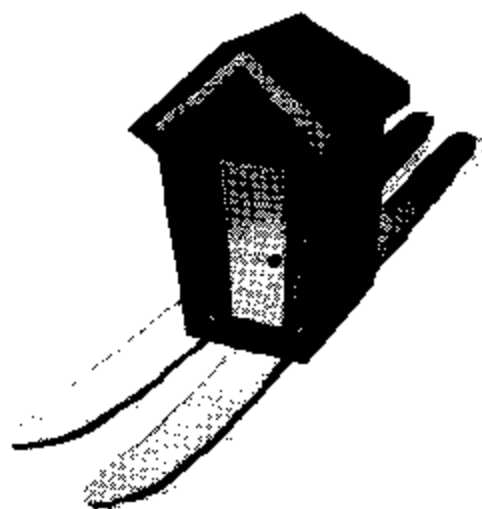
Why getting this going now? WE HAVE TO START MAKING THE OUTHOUSE, AND THE ROOMS FILL UP EARLY.

Rules: Minimum outhouse size: 3' x 4' x 6' tall
 Should be made of wood, cardboard, etc.
 Built on skis
 Add a toilet seat, and a roll of toilet paper
 2 pushers per entry

What else to do: The festival weekend will include dog sled races (that might get 20 or so of you), an Ice fishing contest, beer and food tents (ok, that gets the rest of you), a Chili cockofi, a Polar Bear Dip (I just might dare this one), a scavenger hunt, a snowman making contest, and more, more, more!

Where to stay: Bella Vista Inn (1/2 mile north of Caseville) 2 nights lodging for \$50.00 / same price for kids and adults / 4 in a room

For more information: Contact Penni Lopez at (H) 248-336-2911, (C) 248-259-3732, kavekrawler@yahoo.com
 HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE FOR SOME FUN FEBRUARY DAYS! PENNI ☺



Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Lake Superior

Outer Islands 5-Day 2005

SOLAR Club members, intermediate kayakers, explore The Apostle Islands, Wisconsin's northern coast. 6 club member have the opportunity to be part of a SOLAR Club exclusive professionally guided trip with Living Adventure Inc. Trip dates are August 15th to August 19th. Fiberglass kayaks are provided, all food and guides. Cost is \$529 per person. If less than 6 SOLAR Club members sign up then individuals or couple can join a non-exclusive SOLAR Club trip on August 3-7 or Aug 10-14. See www.livingadventure.com



Contact Matt Dalton at mdalton@americitech.net or 248-360-0031

Advanced Backpacking & Leadership

by Mike Banks

This course will take place in 2006. It is designed to give students a jump in their backcountry education through a variety of scenarios and situations that will better prepare them for life in wilderness travel. The course requirements are extensive. They include but are not limited to the following:

- 5 weekend practicals over less than 3 months
- 1 weeklong practical
- Each individual student will lead a backpacking trip
- The students will design and lead a service project
- Most non-practical Sundays will involve training hikes
- "Other" requirements "

Why am I writing about this 2006 course now? We had to cancel the course in 2004. We had more than enough people who wanted to take the course. Unfortunately, most of them didn't have the needed prerequisites. These are the following:

- Beginning Backpacking
- Land Navigation
- Wilderness First Aid (certification must be current during the course)
- Trip Planning Seminar
- Physical fitness

The course is planned for 6 to 12 people. Do you want to be one of them?

Contact Michael Banks at slywolf52@yahoo.com ASAP if you have any questions about this course. OR ask one of the alumni what they think of the experience. (This might be difficult. They spend a lot of time in the woods.)

Lightweight Backpacking Clinic

by Dave Sweeton

Hello Backpackers! Think back to your last backpacking trip. At the end of the day did you have sore muscles due to carrying too much weight? Or worse, did you bring gear that you didn't actually need? Are you interested in being able to hike further per day without expending more energy or hike your normal distance with less effort?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then the Lightweight Backpacking Clinic is for you. We'll discuss the benefits and downsides of reducing your pack weight, what to bring and what to leave behind, and specific tips and techniques for lightening your load. I'll be demonstrating my lightweight gear, and I'll show you exactly what I would bring on a typical backpacking trip.

This class will cover ultralight gear and techniques, but the main focus will be on lightweight minimalism, which should be of greater benefit to the average backpacker.

- What: A 1-night clinic on lightweight backpacking techniques.
- When: Wednesday, August 10th from 6:00 to 8:00.
- Where: EMS in Farmington Hills (on Orchard Lake south of 14 mile).
- Cost: \$10.00

This class will be interactive, so feel free to bring in gear you'd like to show or any tips and ideas you have for lightening your load.

Contact me with any questions, or sign up at the August Solar meeting. Class is limited to 20 participants. Dave Sweeton, DaveSw@provide.net, 734 475-3082

<p>SOLAR is a non-profit Club with 400-plus members dedicated to the intelligent enjoyment of nature and outdoor pursuits.</p> <p>Membership is only \$40 a year per person (\$55 per family) and includes discounts to a number of retail outfitters, access to club-owned equipment, a monthly newsletter, and a chance to meet hundreds of other like-minded adventurers drawn together by a common love of pristine lakes, breathtaking vistas, virgin forests and scenic shorelines, and the experiences to be found there.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <th colspan="4">SOLAR Steering Committee</th> </tr> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Tom Hayes</td> <td>Equipment</td> <td>Dave DeFrance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice President</td> <td>Lour Szakal</td> <td>Historian</td> <td>Dick Ebenhoe</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Debbie Zuchlewski</td> <td>Membership</td> <td>Penni Lopez</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Carol McCaigie</td> <td>Programs</td> <td>Linda Rodrick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Activities</td> <td>Kevin Cotter</td> <td>Pub. Relations</td> <td>Mary Price</td> </tr> <tr> <td>By-Laws</td> <td>Cindy Taylor</td> <td>SOLAR RAY</td> <td>Pete Lamb</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td>Mike Banks</td> <td>Webmaster</td> <td>Karl Overheul</td> </tr> <tr> <td>At Large:</td> <td colspan="3">Mike Banks • Moe DeFrance • Al Fylak • Steve Gardner • Bill Halvirgis • Cindy Harrison-Felix • Doug Lanyk • Larry Martin • Joan Hettinger • Leshe Cordova • Joan & Bob Westbrook • Tom Oloffo</td> </tr> </table> <p>SOLAR Steering Committee Meetings -The Steering Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. These meetings are usually open to the general membership. Anyone who is interested in learning what topics are discussed, the decisions being made, or contemplating running for a position on the Steering Committee is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending the Steering Committee Meeting, contact Tom Hayes at (586) 778-3589 or tomashayes@wideopenwest.com.</p>	SOLAR Steering Committee				President	Tom Hayes	Equipment	Dave DeFrance	Vice President	Lour Szakal	Historian	Dick Ebenhoe	Secretary	Debbie Zuchlewski	Membership	Penni Lopez	Treasurer	Carol McCaigie	Programs	Linda Rodrick	Activities	Kevin Cotter	Pub. Relations	Mary Price	By-Laws	Cindy Taylor	SOLAR RAY	Pete Lamb	Education	Mike Banks	Webmaster	Karl Overheul	At Large:	Mike Banks • Moe DeFrance • Al Fylak • Steve Gardner • Bill Halvirgis • Cindy Harrison-Felix • Doug Lanyk • Larry Martin • Joan Hettinger • Leshe Cordova • Joan & Bob Westbrook • Tom Oloffo		
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<p>SOLAR MEETINGS</p> <p>Are held the first Tuesday of every month in Southfield at the Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen (between 8 & 9 Mile Roads) at 7:30 p.m. Visitors can come in for free.</p>	<p>SOLAR RAY is a monthly publication of SOLAR and is sent free to current dues-paid members. If you change your address please tell the membership chair person, Penni Lopez at kayekraw3er@yahoo.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Submission Guidelines: (Submissions are due on the Friday two weeks prior to the monthly Steering Committee Meeting (July 8 for the August issue). Electronic files accessible to Word are required.) Pete Lamb, 409 E. Southlawn, Birmingham, MI 48009 Or call 248-644-5931 E-mail: Petexynder@yahoo.com</p>																																				

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