



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

Lost and Found —The Jordan River Rafting Trip; Jan 6-7

by Sally Devine

Leader: Vuk Ruggen

Group: Christina Munder, Phyllis Bryan, Sally Devine, John Yates, Dan and Carlo, Margaret Martin, Steve Hoffman, Ken, Lisa and Gregory McQuide, Doug Lamyk, Darrell Ahlberg, Denise Korzets

Logging and trapping brought the first white settlers to the Jordan River Valley in the 1800s. As the native peoples were pushed further west, legend has it that one rogue tribe left a curse on the river, that every seven years it would claim the hats of two white men. They did not consider the search and rescue training of the SOLARites who descended on the area Saturday, Jan. 6th, 2006.

As promised, arrivals in Boyne City the night before were greeted by a roaring bonfire. An assortment of libations and snacks got the conversation fully engaged. When at last Dan's dog Bones' tired of barking at us and his shadow, we retired at 1 a.m.

Saturday, the Lincoln St. house rose to the smell of Farmer Peat's Re-Peater (hmmm) bacon while the Front St. crew dined at Pippins' (supplemented with a lo-carb bakery run). Only Tina and Phyllis did the healthy hike around Avalanche Mountain while Lincoln St. folks interrupted Front St.'s intense aerobic Buchre game. Dan, Vida, Carlo and Bones spotted two bald eagles on the way home.

Oh yeah, the rafting trip! The 2 pm departure was delayed by Kay's famous seven camera juggling act. Then off we went, floating into a mild 30 degree temp and light snowfall. (Much appreciated by those who had experienced the '03 trip at 18 below). The scenery was beautiful, but no wildlife appeared, just tracks. Midway, snowshoeing was replaced by a hike where Steve entertained us with his ubiquitous snowmen, and Carlo and company engaged in a snowball fight. Pushing on, we discovered more downed trees, or "hat-grabbers," than the guide had counted on. The raft that tried the *over the tree* passage seemed to have fared better than the *under the tree* version, except for one hat lost and then found. One more hat was lost and found before a small patch of whitewater pushed us back to the van.

Forty minutes later, quick-change artists Vida and I tried to scare up a table for 15 at the Red Mesa. Much good food and conversation later we headed back to our places — Front St. played "Apples to Apples" and Lincoln St. tried a condensed version of the Friday



bonfire, board games, TV and early to bed.

Sunday, some liked and sledged, some downhill skied before we parted ways and headed for home.

Lost: two hats. Found: lots of good friendships.

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Don't trust the weatherman

(Trip report for the Intermediate Ski class in Roscommon, and skiing in Hartwick pines.)

by Charles E. Hatley

Boy, Pete Lamb must have done some unspeakable sacrifices to the weather Gods to pull off the ski conditions we had for the intermediate cross country ski class! Me, I was getting into quite a funk listening to the weather reports. All week long, it was looking dry for the Roscommon area. When the "positive sounding" reports from the Cross Country ski headquarters mentioned the classic skiers were skiing in the skating lane, I knew the conditions were bad.

To make matters worse, all Friday the weather was talking about the snowstorm coming towards the Detroit area. There is nothing worse than driving up north for snow just to find brown earth when there is snow home. I did enough of that last year.

Before leaving, I did take one last look at the weather. Plenty of snow coming to Detroit, nothing forecast north of Saginaw. Go figure. One last check of the radar showed a large band of snow over Lake Michigan headed our way. Well, the radar seemed to indicate the snow was heading much farther north than was forecast. In spite of the forecast, I couldn't see any way this would miss Roscommon. This could be an interesting weekend.

The drive up north was uneventful—until we hit Bay City. Then the blizzard started. I kept thinking we were going to drive out of it (well, that is what the weatherman said!), but it kept going on and on. It was slow going with the snow coming down fast. The snow looked like "warp speed" in Star Trek as it swept past our windshield. We slowed to a 35mph crawl—struggling to figure out where the lanes were (the rumble strips beside the lane work good in the snow), occasionally getting passed by the lunatic in the SUV towing snowmobiles, occasionally passing the headlights in the center median ditch pointing towards the sky. As we searched for our hotel in the blizzard, technology, that double edged sword both failed us then saved us. Yahoo maps successfully sent us on a wild goose chase to nowhere in the middle of the storm, while we were saved by the cell phone offering both good directions and promises from the hotel to wait up for us. By the time we arrived there were a good 8" of snow on the ground, and more coming. By the time the sun came up Saturday morning, we knew we were up north. Everything was eerily quiet for a motel. Yes the snow muffled

many of the sounds, but it also took our power away. We did not even have running water. But hey, this was a SOLAR trip—everyone pulled out their LED lights, and we did just fine in the dark. Fortunately the restaurant had a generator—hot coffee—hot—and running water in the bathroom. Life was starting to look good again. Besides, the view of the sun coming up against a blue sky and a snow drenched world was worth it all.



Ski Class

Things were getting off to a slightly slow start at Cross Country ski headquarters as people made their way in through the snow. This of course changed when our intrepid instructor, Jim, drove in, leapt out of his truck and enthusiastically exclaimed—"this is going to be a wonderful day." Now, Jim is always full of boyish enthusiasm when it comes to cross country ski classes, but I do suspect he was in even a better mood than normal this time. He kept exclaiming this was the best day of the year. Given the snow conditions of this year, that is not really saying much, but dang it was nice. More than 10 inches of fresh snow, sunny skies, and temperatures just below freezing. It doesn't get much better than that. It is hard not to have fun on a beautiful day like this, with a good group of SOLAR friends, and an instructor as patient and enthusiastic as Jim. (Thanks Pete - for whatever sacrifice you did). We did a quick review of some of the material from the beginner class—brushing up on how to go down a slope in proper form—and even learning how to turn while skiing

Don't Trust the Weatherman (cont'd)

downhill on cross country skis. Before taking this SOLAR class, I had just assumed this was impossible and hills meant crashing. Not any more. After some practice it was off across the street to put our skills into action on some real hills.

After a warm lunch, much of the class went off to learn skate skiing. With the ability to rent real skate skis, and the advantage of Jim's instruction, this was a unique opportunity to try out a different side of the sport. Other class participants took the opportunity to do some shopping. The shop doesn't look big, but it has a very nice selection in styles and colors that can be hard to find around metro Detroit. The shopping experience was enhanced by the helpful staff (as excited about the snow as we were) and the fact that everything was ON SALE! After the skating and spending spree, Jim took us back across the street to enjoy the fresh snow, warm sunlight and beautiful conditions of this unexpected day.

Saturday evening The SOLARites with busy social calendars headed back down south, while those who loved to ski stayed around to enjoy Northern Michigan. Marion and I were delighted to find that the Bed and Breakfast that we had reserved was empty of guests. We had the whole house to ourselves.

Yes, the weatherman had succeeded in scaring everyone off. The romantic potentials of this evening were a nice bonus after a full day of skiing. On Sunday, the two of us decided to visit Hartwick Pines State Park for some more skiing. Even at noon, there was only one other car in the parking lot. There were freshly groomed trails, lots of snow, lots of sunshine, and deep blue sky waiting for us to enjoy. The beauty of the park was magnified with all of the fresh snow and sunny blue skies. Hartwick is nice gentle skiing. There are plenty of hills, but you don't have to fishbone up them or snowplow down. In fact, the downhill runs felt much like toboggan runs designed just for cross country skiing. There are 3 loops, actually one big loop



Kevin on his first hill

with two short cuts. This gives you a choice of 3, 5 or 7.5 miles. As a nice bonus, the park has a warming room with free snacks and drinks. That was such a nice surprise we had to leave a nice gift in the donation jar.

After two days of skiing in Michigan's finest weather and snowy beauty, it was time to go home. Traffic was a bit lighter than normal as many, but not all, of the snowmobile trailers had stayed down state. Of course when we got home, we found that this winter storm had not even succeeded in covering our grass with snow. It just goes to show, in Michigan—never trust the weatherman.

Repeat Announcement of SOLAR Ray Distribution

Starting this month, the SOLAR Ray's main means of distribution will be from the SOLAR outdoors web site (www.solaroutdoors.org). If however, you need to receive a copy by mail, contact the membership chairperson, Penni Lopez at kavekrawler@yahoo.com, and you will be continue to receive the Ray by mail.

Lake Ann Ski Trip

by Pete Lamb

Defying the weather and the obvious lack of snow, thirty of SOLAR's hardiest went up to Lake Ann, close to Traverse City to cross country ski. Jim Coe was the trip leader, and he had rented two beautiful log cabins overlooking Lake Ann and close to some wonderful cross country ski trails. The cabins were quite large and nicely appointed. They had been decorated by an artist craftsman and had all kinds of nice touches, like hand forged towel racks and switch plates, as well as little carvings on the stair case and the table top. Of course, there was a log stove.

An advance group of four went up on Thursday night to check for places to ski and also to check out hiking trails in the eventuality of no snow. The snow was too thin to ski on, so the advance party hiked around some of the lakes in the area. The weather was very pleasant, and it was a nice day to spend in the woods.



Trip Leader Jim Coe

Saturday dawned bright, not that anyone saw it actually dawn. Eventually groups went out for the day. Some went to hike Alligator Hill and the Sleeping Bear Dunes, and several did try to get some



Lake Ann-view from the cabin

skiing in on the Vasa Ski trail. The ski trail was, how should I say? Interesting. One of the first things one noticed was the almost total lack of snow on the trail, but there was a lot of black ice as a substitute. I skied with Mary Dun, and it does not seem to matter to Mary what surface she skis on. She is fast on whatever. We did a 5k trail for starters. I got to love the sound of skis clattering over black ice as I attempted to snowplow down some twisting gradient while Mary just seemed to float along somewhere in front. We arrived at the finish, and I heard this Limey say, You want to try the 10k now Mary? I looked around to see who had spoken. It sure wasn't me. I was too busy trying to breathe and keep the sweat out of my eyes. So off we went again. Actually the longer trail was in better shape and did have some snow in spots. Later a group got together to ski the Lake Ann trail. Saturday evening turned into quite a party with Cabin 2 hosting Cabin 1 to deserts, followed by dominoes and cards. At 2 a.m. I ran out of steam and went back to my cabin to bed.

What a surprise Sunday morning held for us—nine inches of new snow on the ground. The woods just looked like fairyland. It was a fabulous day but quite windy. Quite a few decided to head home, as driving would be interesting, but a group of nine headed by Jim Coe headed for the Lake Ann trail again. What a day to ski. What a day to be alive. Well done, Jim for arranging that snowfall. The skiing was much easier. The hills were fun to run.

SOLAR MARCH 2006 CALENDAR

School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation

MARCH ACTIVITIES

7	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
7	TUE	Program: Search for Fossils in Antarctica			Linda Rodrick lindamra@aol.com
10	FRI	DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR APRIL SOLAR RAY			
17-19	WKND	Wabos Loppet	Stokely, Ontario	Mike Banks	michaelbsolar@yahoo.com
19	SUN	Detroit Symphony Orchestra concert**	Max Fisher Theater, Detroit	Elizabeth Schwab	ges1339@yahoo.com
25	SAT	Whirlyball**	Whirlyball West, Novi	Lou Szakal	everest2003@comcast.net
26	SUN	Curling**	Detroit Curling Club, Ferndale	Dave Sweetor	davesw@provide.net
26-27	SUN/MON	Banff Film Festival**	Rackham Center, Ann Arbor	Mary Price	mprice@ameritech.net

MARCH CLASSES

Mar 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 8-9, 20, 28-30	MULTI	Beginning backpacking class	TBA	Mike Banks	michaelbsolar@yahoo.com
Mar 29, Apr 1, 5, 12, 19, 22, 26, 29, May 5-7	MULTI	Rock climbing class	Benchmark/Planet Rock/Rattlesnake	Pete Lamb	petekandu@yahoo.com

APRIL ACTIVITIES

4	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
4	TUE	Program: Scuba Diving Orientation			Linda Rodrick lindamra@aol.com
8-16	MULTI	Backpacking trip	Grand Teton National Park	Grey Ivanov	Sergey.Ivanov@us.bosch.com
13-20	MULTI	Caribbean Trip (FULL)**	St. John, Virgin Islands	Jim Gessner	gessnerj@prodigy.net

MAY ACTIVITIES

2	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
13	SAT	Mother Nature's full moon canoe paddle**	Heavner's, Proud Lake	Margaret Martin/Alan Heavner	mpluscat@hotmail.com AlanHeavner@heavnercanoe.com
26-29	WKND	Backpacking trip	South Manitou Island	Leslie Cordova	lesliegene@aol.com
26-29	WKND	Backpacking trip	North Manitou Island	Pam and Lou Szakal	parieh1@netscape.net

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

June 2-4	WKND	SOLAR 30 th Anniversary celebration	Brighton State Rec Area	Dick Ebenhoe	rjebenhoe@yahoo.com
Jun 30-Jul 4	WKND	Hiking and biking	Clyahoga Valley NP	Leslie Cordova	lesliegene@aol.com
Jul 13-Aug 13	MULTI	Backpacking trip	John Muir Trail	Dave De-france	defranceomnexus@comcast.net
Jul 29-Aug 15	MULTI	Backpacking trip	Kings Canyon NP	Don Wold	dwold12972@aol.com
Sept 9	SAT	Harvest full moon canoe paddle**	Heavner's, Proud Lake	Margaret Martin/Alan Heavner	mpluscat@hotmail.com AlanHeavner@heavnercanoe.com
Oct 8	SUN	Pumpkin party and full moon canoe paddle**	Heavner's, Proud Lake	Margaret Martin/Alan Heavner	mpluscat@hotmail.com AlanHeavner@heavnercanoe.com

**FOR INFORMATION ON JOINING THE SOLAR CLUB, CONTACT PENNI LOPEZ (248) 259-3732,
kavekrawler@yahoo.com OR VISIT WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG**

If you would like to help plan or lead a solar activity, contact
Kevin Potter (248) 544-9637 or send email to solar@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 Kodrick

MARCH PROGRAM: The Search for Fossil Reptiles in Antarctica
By: John Zawiskie (Geologist, Cranbrook Institute of Science)

You are in for a treat as Cranbrook geologist John Zawiskie shares his remarkable experiences on three expeditions to Antarctica with us. His research involved a search for fossil reptiles and the field study of the geology of the Transantarctic and Ellsworth Mountains. The program is illustrated by John's field photography of the wildlife, geology and glaciers of this frozen continent, including rare photos of the field excavation of the famous continental drift synapsid reptile *Lystrosaurus* and the skeleton of *Cryolophosaurus*, a ferocious Early Jurassic dinosaur collected by Wayne State University graduate Dr William Hammer 200 miles from the South Pole!

UPCOMING SOLAR PROGRAMS

April Program: "Discovering the Underwater World"
By: Mike Wrubel (of Advanced Aquatics)

Join Mike for an entertaining slide presentation that explores the underwater world from the perspective of a fish. No other environment approaches the abundance, diversity and vibrancy of a pristine coral reef. Underwater, more different species are visible in ten minutes than in ten hours of observation in the most unspoiled wilderness above water. You'll discover that even a seemingly empty, sterile lake or flooded quarry actually teem with life. This presentation will serve as a reminder that nature's imagination exceeds ours!

May Program: Annual SOLAR Steering Committee Elections
and Photography Contest

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

Rock Climbing Class
by Pete Lamb

The Rock Climbing Class is designed to give a beginning climber a safe grounding in the basics of rock climbing and setting up a sound top rope system.

Class starts on Wednesday March 29th at REI Troy at 6:00 and will meet every Wednesday until May 26th.

Four practicals are planned, which are mandatory for a certificate:

- April 1 at Planet Rock to earn a belay card
- April 22 Kensington Metro park top rope set up
- April 29th at Planet Rock rappelling and ascending and climbing technique
- Final practical at Rattlesnake Ontario May 5-7 or possibly at Red River Gorge

The class size is limited to 20 participants. Cost is \$130. I will take signups and a deposit to SOLAR at the March meeting. For further information contact me at petekandu@yahoo.com.

Backpacking South Manitou Island—Memorial Weekend, May 26–29, 2006

Just finishing the spring backpack class, and looking to practice your new found skills, or just want to get out after the winter? Come join SOLAR as we backpack South Manitou Island. You must have taken the SOLAR backpack class or be proficient at backpacking to participate in this event.

You may choose to take the ferry over to the Island either Friday or Saturday, and everybody will be returning on the Monday Ferry. The cost of this trip is \$10 which includes your camping fees and the ferry, \$25 for kids 12 and younger. You will be responsible for paying the park (either on the mainland or on the Island) a \$10 vehicle fee, plus a \$2 per day parking fee.

NOTE: These fees are 2005 rates and are subject to change.

South Manitou Island is part of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. We will be hiking about 1.5 miles to the Bay Campground where I have 2 group campsites reserved for SOLAR. These sites are equipped with a fire ring, outhouse and water pump, but no picnic tables. You should be prepared to carry all of your gear in, as they do not allow any kind of wheeled device. Be advised that there is NO food service on the Island or any place to purchase supplies. Also, be prepared to hang your food from the killer CHIPMUNKS! A backpack stove is also a necessity, as well as a rain tarp in case it does rain (this is Michigan). SOLAR has some that you may borrow. Please try to double up in your tents as each site will only accommodate 10 tents and up to 20 people.

A lot of interesting day hikes are available on the Island. You can tour the 1871 lighthouse, wander around the old farmsteads, orchards and cemetery, visit the old growth cedars, view the shipwreck of the Francisco Morazan which ran aground in 1960, climb on the sand dunes, or just play at the beach. A variety of wildlife lives on the island, including fox, beaver, coyote, squirrel, chipmunk, snowshoe hare, deer mouse and four species of bats.

Remember that you will be responsible for your own food and gear (stoves, water filters, tents, first aid, bear bag etc.) **PLEASE COME PREPARED!**

Sound like fun? Call Leslie Cordova at (248) 547-5626 or e-mail lesliegene@aol.com.

Note: Since the ferry will fill up for this trip, I will need all money by the April meeting so reservations can be made.

South Manitou Island Light



Valentine—Arabic Style

By Dave DeFrance

It started out as a revival of the ethnic dinners and turned into a birthday party and more. As it turns out, Pete Lamb's birthday is on February 14th. Since he will be in Yellowstone on that day and was the organizer of the ethnic dinner, it seemed appropriate to pump up the volume a bit and celebrate all at once.

So about 30 hungry SOLARites and some of Pete's kids and his grandkids gathered at La Shish in Farmington Hills on Friday, February 10, for the combination ethnic/birthday/valentine's feast. And what a feast it was! The restaurant has a selection called La Feast which contains a cross section of some of favorite Arabic dishes. Starting with tabbouli, Greek and fatoush salads, it was quickly followed by varieties of hummous, falafel, and lentils. The crowning glory at one table was an assortment of meats and vegetables layered on a mound of rice. Samples of lamb chops, shish kabob, shish tawook, shish kaffa and seafoods were laid out before us. At another table, the celebrants ordered the "Flaming Tower"—a rotisserie topee of shish kabobs with flames at the top. This sampler was 3 times as much as we should have eaten.

This was not the end, however. Next, a couple of rounds of happy birthday followed by cake and fruit. As we were wheeled out the door, Pete announced the continuation of the party at Page's Bar in Farmington. There, some more SOLARites joined Pete for many happy returns and a rousing sendoff to the frigid beauty of Yellowstone in Winter.



SOLAR Curling Event

by Dave Sweeton

Curling is an ancient game that originated prior to the 1500's in Scotland. It is based upon two principles: competition and fellowship... ON ICE!

Don't be intimidated by the ice though, curling is an easy to learn and fun to play game and its great exercise too! The object of the game is to slide a 42 lb. stone to the end of the ice, and get it closer to the center of the target than your opponent's stone. Two of your teammates are sweeping the ice in front of your stone to increase the distance it travels. ***This is a game of brains and finesse over brawn.***

Want to learn more about curling?

- Check out CBC (<http://www.cbc.ca>) or the Winter Olympics (<http://www.nbcolympics.com/>) to see the game in action.
- Curling competition, strategy, scoring, and equipment interactive tutorial: <http://elfURL.com/158i>
- Read Curling is Ready for its Olympic Close-up: <http://www.nbcolympics.com/curling/5049610/detail.html>
- Cur. online at: <http://206.191.34.90/CBCcurling/>

No equipment or prior experience is necessary. All you need is an adventurous spirit and a desire for fun!

- **Where:** Detroit Curling Club (DCC) in Ferndale: <http://detroitcurlingclub.com/>
- **When:** Sunday March 26th, 2:30 to approximately 6:00 (must be on time!)
- **Who:** 32 people total (non-SOLAR event, friends and family welcome)
- **How:** Instruction from DCC members will be provided!
- **How much:** \$18 per person. Make checks payable to Dave Sweeton.
- **Trip Leaders:** Dave Sweeton & Rebecca Yoo

Sign up at the March SOLAR meeting or email DaveSw@provide.net Hope you can join us!

Michael Banks Wins an MRPA Community Service Award!!!

by Derenda Howard

On January 12, 2005 Michael Banks was recognized by the Michigan Recreation and Park Association for his outstanding contributions to Oakland County Parks and Recreation and enhancing quality of life through recreation.

Michael Banks, a SOLAR Steering Committee Member and an EMS employee, has been instrumental in both organizations partnering with Parks and Recreation departments throughout Oakland County. I have worked with Michael, as well as many other SOLARites, over the past three years at the Women in the Wilderness Fall and Winter Expeditions. These programs teach women from around the state of Michigan the skills, benefits, and joys of outdoor pursuits. They also connect women to other recreation groups such as SOLAR, Women's Weekends, Inc., MiGO, MMBA, the Oakland Astronomy Club and others to encourage continued participation in outdoor recreation. Michael has, on his own time, recruited most of the wonderful instructors that make these such high quality and enjoyable programs. He brings a multitude of skills, knowledge, experience and most of all a passion for outdoor education. In his words "we have a responsibility as stewards of the land and wilderness and we need to pass that on to other people."

Thank you, Michael, for all that you do and congratulations on an award well deserved



Mike at a Women in the Wilderness meeting dancing during the Drum Circle.

Join your fellow SOLARites at the Banff Mountain Film Festival

by Mary Price

When: Sunday, March 26th and Monday March 27th. Doors open at 5:15 p. m. and the show begins at 6:00p.m. both nights.

Cost: \$10 prior to show, \$12 at the door

Where: Rackham Hall, Ann Arbor

Each night will have a showing of a different collection of films.

I will be selling tickets at the March 7th general membership meeting, or

send your check to me at 22801 Tulane, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

Make check out to SOLAR. I will have your ticket for you the night of the

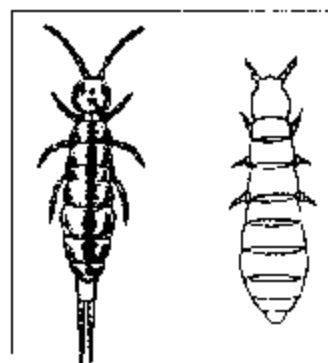
Festival. Questions? Contact me at hmprice@ameritech.net or call (248)

477-7547. Mary Price, Public Relations



Snow Fleas, Also Known as Springtails

Contributed by Jim Coe from the Michigan Nature Conservancy's newsletter



Snow Flea, greatly enlarged

on those sunny winter days, they may be eating algae, bacteria and fungus on the snow's surface, and also mating.

They will lay their eggs on leaf litter. The young hatch later in the spring, pinkish and less than a millimeter long. They mature by the following November. Springtails don't use legs to jump. They have an abdominal appendage known as a furcula. This jumping organ is attached near the bottom rear of the animal. Its forked tip is aimed toward the front of the insect and catches on the lip of the abdominal segment, and the insect is propelled into the air. The movement is random rather than controlled. They can also crawl a little.

Snow fleas don't bite, don't eat crops, don't cause human or animal diseases, and have no interest in entering your home. In fact, springtails are an essential part of the web of life because of their role in decomposing dead plants. They have two antennae, several simple eyes, and mouth-parts, which are hidden in a pouch.

Recently, researchers at Queens University, Kingston Ontario, discovered the protein which serves as antifreeze in snow fleas and allows them to function on the snow. Although other creatures have natural antifreezes, the snow flea's protein appears to be unique in that it decomposes at higher temperatures. Scientists speculate that such a protein would be useful in preserving human organs for transplant. It might allow the organ to be stored at a lower temperature, but the antifreeze would decompose after the transplant surgery, as the patient warmed up. This would remove the protein from the patient's system and reduce the likelihood of the patient's system forming antibodies. The researchers also suggest the antifreeze protein could be used to increase frost resistance in plants, and inhibit crystallization in frozen foods.



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While you wait, you can enjoy Munchies, Roll-ups and Pizza. Bring in your own Adult Beverages (Soft Drinks are Included). Bring a Desert to pass around. Watch the game or cheer on your pals from our private party room. You can also choose music selections from the CD Jukebox or take advantage of the gaming midway: Pool, Air Hockey, Pinball, Golf and more...

WHAT: WHIRLYBALL
WHO: S.C.L.A.R. and NON-S.O.L.A.R. Members
WHEN: Saturday, March 25, 2006
TIME: 3:00 - 6:00 pm
WHERE: Whirlyball Clinton Twp., 19781 15 Mile Rd.
 Clinton Township, MI 48035
 On 15 Mile just East of Groesbeck.
 586-792-4190
www.whirlyballwest.com
COST: \$25 for adults, \$15 for kids, (must be 54" to play). Please bring money to Tuesday's meeting, or send a check (see below) to reserve your spot.
INCLUDES: 3 hours of play, Roll-ups, Pizza, Munchies, Soft Drinks and more.
B.Y.O.B.: You can bring in your own Adult Beverages at this location.
B.Y.O.D.: You can bring in a Desert if you wish.
CONTACT: Lou Szakal 248-756-7001, Everest2008@comcast.net, 303 Cabinet St., Milford, MI 48381

Solar Club Hiking Schedule for March 2006

Make New Friends. Hike with the Solar Club members, non-members, children, (Dogs allowed in most areas). All hikes start at 9:30 AM, unless otherwise stated.

Hike Coordinator: Matt Dalton. 248-360-0031 Phone:
mdalton@ameritech.net

Contact Matt or post a message on the Solar Club Yahoo site after you decide to join one of the hikes. Discuss car pooling and obtain a list of other hikers, additional details, or directions for the hike. Make plans for an after hike restaurant stop.



Hike Schedule:

March 4, 2006: Saturday, 9:30 AM: Kensington Metro Park, Milford, MI. Meet at the Nature Center. Park is located south of I-96 and Kensington Ext.

March 5, 2006: Sunday, 12 - Noon: Maybury State Park, Northville, MI. Hepatica Hike, Meet at the Concessions Building, use the 8 Mile Rd entrance, (west of Beck Rd.) This 6 mile Sierra Club hike will be lead by Phil Crookshank. 313-562-1873 Solar Club & Sierra Club Hike Leader. Hikers will stop and observe Hepatica.

March 12, 2006: Sunday, 9:30 AM & 1:00 PM: West Bloomfield Nature Preserve
Solar Club and Sierra Club hike and Heron Rookery Walk. Meet in parking lot south of Pontiac Trail Rd. (between Halsted and Orchard Lake Rd.) Matt Dalton, Solar Club will lead the 9:30 AM hike and Cindy Gunnip, Sierra Club will lead the 1:00 PM hike. Starbucks stop in the middle of the hike, it's right off the trail....city hiking ...!

March 18, 2006, Saturday, 9:30 AM, Pontiac Lake State Park: North of M-59 Highland Rd. and west of Williams Lake Rd. Meet in the NW corner of the Gale Rd. parking lot. Bring map & compass, GPS, we'll brush up on these skills. Matt Dalton will lead hike.

March 19, 2006, Sunday, 11:30ish, Sierra Club hike at Highland State Park, northeast of Milford, MI. Hike will be lead by Lee Becker, car-pooling at 11:00 am from Bloomfield Twp. Costco, on Telegraph, north of Square Lake Rd. Call for hike starting area.

March 25, 2006, Saturday Dodge Park #4, Cass Lake, Oakland Cty, Saturday, 9:30 AM, 3 mile hike and swim with dogs or friends that bark a lot.(The dogs will do the swimming.) State Park is west of Orchard Lake Rd. and south of M-59. Take Orchard Lake Rd. North, go North again on Cass Lake Rd., west on Cass/Elizabeth Rd, South on Parkway. Meet at end of the road past boat launch. Hike& Swim lead by Murphy Dalton

<p>SOLAR is a non-profit Club with 400-plus members affiliated to the intelligent enjoyment of nature and outdoor pursuits.</p> <p>Membership is only \$40 a year per person (\$50 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><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>Lou Szakal</td><td>Historian</td><td>Dick Elanhoe</td></tr><tr><td>Secretary</td><td>Debbie Zuchlewski</td><td>Membership</td><td>Penni Lopez</td></tr><tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>Carol McCritie</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 Tyjak • Steve Gardner • Bill Halvingis • Cindy Harrison-Felix • Doug Lanyk • Larry Martin • Joan Hettinger • Leslie Cordova • Juan & Bob Westbrook • Tom Oloff</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 thomashayes@wideopenwest.com.</p>	SOLAR Steering Committee				President	Tom Hayes	Equipment	Dave DeFrance	Vice President	Lou Szakal	Historian	Dick Elanhoe	Secretary	Debbie Zuchlewski	Membership	Penni Lopez	Treasurer	Carol McCritie	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 Tyjak • Steve Gardner • Bill Halvingis • Cindy Harrison-Felix • Doug Lanyk • Larry Martin • Joan Hettinger • Leslie Cordova • Juan & Bob Westbrook • Tom Oloff		
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<p>SOLAR MEETINGS 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 available online at the SOLAR home website. For a copy to be mailed to you, contact the membership chairperson, Penni Lopez at kavekrawlen@yahoo.com</p> <p>Submission Guidelines: (Submissions are due on the Friday two weeks prior to the monthly Steering Committee Meeting (Mar. 10 for the April issue). Electronic files accessible to Word are required.) Call Pete Lamb at: 248-703-9927 E-mail: Petekandru@yahoo.com</p>																																				

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG



S.O.L.A.R.
P.O. Box 2638
Southfield MI 48034