



The

# SOLAR RAY

A Monthly Publication of the School for Outdoor leadership, Adventure, and Recreation (SOLAR)

April 2009

## SOLAR APRIL 2009 CALENDAR

[www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org)

APRIL ACTIVITIES					
4/2-5	Multi	White Water Rafting	Ohiopyle, PA	Charity Loring	charitymarie@yahoo.com
4/5-12	Multi	Return to St John USVI	Maho Bay Camps, St. John, USVI	Jim Gessner	gessnerj@comcast.net
4/7	Tues	Monthly Meeting	Colony Hall	Cindy Taylor	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
4/7	Tues	Simple Living - Deanne Bednar	Colony Hall	Janet Duncan	SolarPrograms@solaroutdoors.org
4/30-5/3	Wknd	Wildflower Weekend	Metamora, MI	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@hotmail.com
APRIL CLASSES					
(con't) 4/4, 8, 19	Multi	Adventure Racing	TBD	Pamela Riehl	pariehl@gmail.com
4/9, 16, 18, 23, 25-26	Multi	Beginner Backpacking Spring Class	Oak Park Community Center	Mike Banks	slywolfe52@yahoo.com
MAY ACTIVITIES					
1	Tues	Monthly Meeting	Colony Hall	Cindy Taylor	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
1	Tues	SOLAR Elections	Colony Hall	Janet Duncan	SolarPrograms@solaroutdoors.org
5/8-10	Wknd	Mother's Day Weekend Backpack Trip	North Manitou Island, MI	Mike Banks	slywolfe52@yahoo.com
5/22- 25	Multi	Starved Rock and Mattiessen State Park Hike and Camp Weekend	Utica, IL	Leslie Cordova	lesliegene@aol.com
MAY CLASSES					
(con't) 5/7, 15-17	Multi	Beginner Backpacking Spring Class	Oak Park Community Center	Mike Banks	slywolfe52@yahoo.com
(con't) 5/9, 30	Sat	Adventure Racing	TBD	Pamela Riehl	pariehl@gmail.com
5/16	Sat	Paddling Class	Proud Lake Rec Area	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@hotmail.com
5/16-17	Wknd	Scuba Diving – Pool	TBD	Tom Hayes	sarcaptin@yahoo.com
5/28, 6/4, 11, 18, 25	Sat	Open Water Kayak Skills	Harley Ensign Boat Ramp	Chuck Smith	cbryansmit@aol.com
JUNE ACTIVITIES					
3	Tues	Monthly Meeting	Colony Hall	Cindy Taylor	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
3	Tues	TBD	Colony Hall	Janet Duncan	SolarPrograms@solaroutdoors.org
6/5-7	Wknd	Summer Kickoff Camping Weekend	Brighton Rec Area	Carol McCrie	cmccrie@sbcglobal.net
6/19-21	Wknd	Kid Mandatory Beginner Backpack Trip	Manistee River Trail	Charity Loring	charitymarie@yahoo.com
JUNE CLASSES					

(con't) 6/4, 11, 18, 25	Sat	Open Water Kayak Skills	Harley Ensign Boat Ramp	Chuck Smith	cbryansmit@aol.com
6/6-7	Wknd	Scuba Diving – Open Water Test	Bowling Green, OH	Tom Hayes	sarcaptin@yahoo.com
<b>UPCOMING ACTIVITIES</b>					
7/2-5	Multi	Camping Weekend	Chain O' Lakes State Park, IN	Leslie Cordova	lesliegene@aol.com
Fall 2010	Multi	Gaelic Adventure	Ireland	Jim Gessner	gessnerj@comcast.net
<b>UPCOMING CLASSES</b>					

If you would like to plan/lead a SOLAR activity, contact our Activities Chairperson, Samantha Schafer, at [SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org).

If you would like to teach or suggest a SOLAR class, contact our Education Chairperson, Allen Duncan, at [SolarEducation@SolarOutdoors.org](mailto:SolarEducation@SolarOutdoors.org).

SOLAR HAS A NO-REFUND POLICY. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN ACTIVITY, YOU MAY "SELL YOUR SPOT" TO ANOTHER CLUB MEMBER

## **Basic Land Navigation**

### **When/Where:**

**Wednesday, June 10, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM** – Berkley Community Center

**Wednesday, June 17, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM** – Berkley Community Center

**Saturday, June 20 (9 AM - 7 PM) & Sunday, June 21 (9 AM - 4 PM)** – Waterloo Rec. Area

### **The class includes:**

- Map reading
- Taking & plotting compass bearings
- The 3 norths & Declination
- Navigation strategies
- Primitive navigation
- Terrain recognition exercise
- Cross-country route-finding exercise

This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Land Navigation class, which focuses on GPS. GPS is not covered at all in this class.

Class fee: \$45. Includes book, overnight accommodations at Burns Cabin for the practical.

To sign up, or for more information, contact: Ati Tislerics, [atisleri@umich.edu](mailto:atisleri@umich.edu), 313-794-0164

**CHAIN O' LAKES STATE PARK**  
**JULY 2 - 5, 2009**  
**HIKING, CANOEING, KAYAKING, CAMPING, SWIMMING, AMISH**  
**COUNTRY - KID AND DOG FRIENDLY**

Come join us July 2 - 5, 2009. We are going to drive 3 - 3.5 hours to Indiana. Eight connecting lakes will be the center of your adventure at Chain O' Lakes State Park. Paddle through the chain, hike the 10 miles of trails, attend a nature program in the park's "old school house" nature center, relax and go swimming. At nearby Rome City, you can visit the Gene Stratton-Porter House. Also, Shipshewana (Amish County) is only a 30 minute drive.

We will spend 3 nights camping, and exploring. Saturday night will be a traditional SOLAR potluck. There are 7 individual campsites reserved, in this modern campground with showers and flush toilets.

All this fun can be yours for a mere \$18 per person.

Contact Leslie Cordova to reserve your spot today. [lesliegene@aol.com](mailto:lesliegene@aol.com) or (248) 547-5626.

**TRAIL BOSS DAVE & MAJOR MO**

A year ago...I was searching the internet  
For an out door club  
Found SOLAR OUTDOORS  
And fell in love

Packed with activities  
Many trips there to see  
One peaked my interest  
The Best of the JMT

I emailed one, DeFrance  
Within an hour he phoned me  
"Have a pre-trip meeting soon"  
Would you like to come and see?"

Dave is his name  
Amiable fellow  
He has a fine wife  
Her first name is Mo

Both know their business  
Of hiking and all

Both are go-getters  
The two of them stand tall

For passionate they are  
Looked up to by many  
That trip that we did  
Was certainly a dandy

Hat's off to the Trail Boss  
He is always on the go  
And here's a bear hug salute  
To endearing Major Mo

Best Regards,  
Gung-Ho Glenn

#### WHAT IS SOLAR?

SOLAR is a non-profit club with 400-plus members dedicated to the intelligent enjoyment of nature and outdoor pursuits.

#### MEMBERSHIP

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, scenic shorelines, and the experiences to be found there.

#### MEETINGS

Our monthly 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 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### SOLAR RAY NEWSLETTER

The SOLAR RAY is a monthly publication of SOLAR and is available online at [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org). To receive a copy in the mail, please contact Mary Price at [membership@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:membership@solaroutdoors.org).

#### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions for the SOLAR Ray are due on the Friday two weeks prior to the monthly Steering Committee Meeting (June 13 for the July issue). Electronic documents only, Word is preferred and please attach your images. If you have any questions, please contact Pete Lamb at [rayeditor@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:rayeditor@solaroutdoors.org).

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

President: Cindy Taylor	Vice President: Carol McCririe
Secretary: Sherri Doebel	Treasurer: Michelle Delaporte
Activities: Samantha Schafer	By-Laws: Chuck Smith
Education: Allen Duncan	Equipment: Sherri Doebel
Historian: Debbie Zuchlewski	Membership: Mary Price
Programs: Jan Duncan	Public Relations: Pam Szakal
Ray Editor: Pete Lamb	Webmaster: Willi Gutman

#### PRESIDENTS AT LARGE

Mike Banks | Leslie Cordova | Al Fylak | Steve Gardner  
Bill Halvingis | Cindy Harrison-Felix | Tom Hayes | Doug Lanyk  
Larry Martin | Joan Hettinger | Tom Oloffo | Lou Szakal  
Joan & Bob Westbrook

#### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Steering Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. 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, please contact Cindy Taylor at [president@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:president@solaroutdoors.org).

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website at: [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org).

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SOLAR RAY ASSISTANT EDITORS

Winnie Chrzanowski, Kathy Drewyore, Sheila Hardy, Pam Schmelzer, Carol McCririe, Elizabeth Schwab.

Visit our website: [WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG](http://WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG)

#### SOLAR

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