

The SOLAR Ray

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A monthly publication of the School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR)

August 2010

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A Most Moose-terious Occurrence

by Winnie Chrzanowski

Last Sunday we were driving south on M123 and spotted what we thought was a moose about 1/4 mile away from us. The silhouette was right for a moose plus we knew from the park rangers they had a few in the vicinity. We were excited to have at least spotted one of these shy creatures.

On Monday, we came back to camp after taking a drive to Tahquamenon Falls. We heard one of the other campers say a moose was in the river and had been there since about 11 a.m. The moose was on the bank opposite the campground just south of the fishing pier.

I grabbed my camera and ran to the pier to get some photos. The moose was just standing in the river drinking and blowing bubbles. One camper said the moose had swum across the river a couple of times since 11. Kayakers and motor boaters floated quite close to where the moose stood and stayed watching the animal for quite some time. The excitement was palpable. Photographers and non-photographers alike hung over the fishing pier railing either staring awestruck at the moose or taking photos. We ran back to our camp site, jumped in our kayaks, and paddled out to get a better look - sans camera as I didn't want to get it wet. We sat and observed for a while; the moose just kept putting her muzzle in the water and not moving - completely oblivious to all the humans gawking at her.

We paddled back to camp. I grabbed the camera again and quickly headed back to the fishing pier. We hoped we'd get to see her swim across the river and come out on the bank close to where we were standing. I was dying for a shot of her coming out of the water. When we arrived at the fishing pier, I asked if anyone knew where the moose was as I didn't see her swimming toward the bank where we waited. The woman next to me pointed to the middle of the river where a large log floated with the current. She said the moose was just past the log.

I kept my eyes on the moose, but she didn't move. I mused that a moose is not an animal who can breathe underwater for any length of time, and my daughter-in-law wondered aloud if she was dead. It became apparent something was wrong as the current moved the moose's body and the log downriver. A fellow maneuvered his boat closer to the log and the body, latched onto the log, and gave the moose a poke with it. The moose didn't move. By that time the excitement was replaced by stunned silence. None of us could believe that less than 20 minutes ago, the moose had been in the water drinking.

It started to rain, and the glassy calm water was peppered by the raindrops. Maybe Mother Nature was crying for her lost creature. I know I felt a great

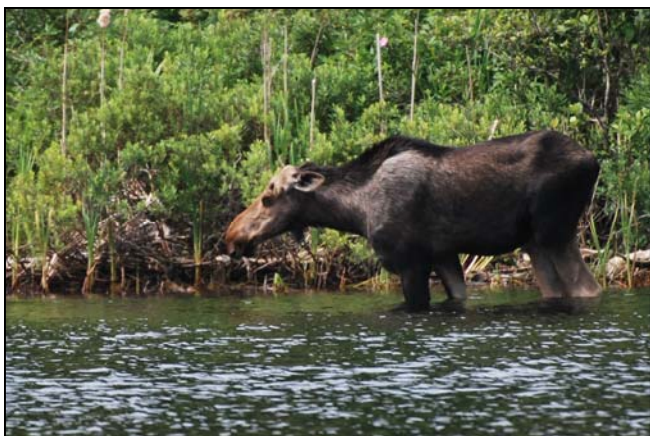
(Continued on page 2)



SOLAR Members are encouraged to use the online calendar at www.meetup.com/SOLAR-Outdoors for convenient class and trip sign-ups.



[Facebook.com/SOLAROutdoors](https://www.facebook.com/SOLAROutdoors)



sadness that this once magnificent animal had died so quietly, without making a sound.

My son went to get the DNR agent so someone would come and get the body out of the water. They hauled her out about 6:30 p.m. The DNR guy told us she was a 2 year old female. He said they suspected she had contracted either heartworm or ringworm from the deer population. He told us they were going to do an autopsy on her that night. They requested photos. I sent them today and asked if they would share the autopsy results if possible. We asked if the moose were tagged and monitored. He said that with budget cuts (and we all know how that story goes), that practice was suspended indefinitely.

And whatever moose herd exists in the Tahquamenon Falls State Park, it's at risk. And it's sad. And I'm glad I got to see her. And when I looked at the photos I took, I could see that the moose did not look healthy. And I'm glad I got some photos of her before she died. At least she still exists in them. And in honor of seeing her and of her untimely demise, we all went back to camp and had a *Moose Drool Brown Ale* in her honor.

We asked SOLAR club members...

What have you learned about yourself since you joined SOLAR?



Marcia Murphy

I learned that I am a gear junkie.



Brian Nordhaus

That I really like the social side of the outdoors and meeting people. I used to think it was about the adventure, but I also enjoy the people.



Don Wold

I've learned that I can plan trips and organize things, which I've never done before. I also found out what getting in shape is really like!

*Have a question to suggest?
Contact the Ray
Editor at
SOLARrayeditor@
solaroutdoors.org*



SOLAR would like to welcome the following new members to the club!

Mary T. Abbott

Gordon Burkhead

Carlos Gomez

Ken Gray

Cindy Marie Hollister

Vani Kasta

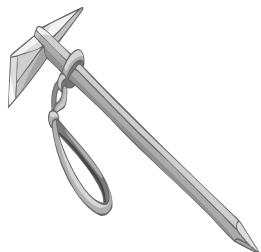
Pamela Lawson

Stanley K. Yolkiewicz

Basic Mountaineering & Safety Skills Class

by Lou Szakal

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to stand on the summit of a mountain? Or to know what it takes to get there? How about just advancing your winter camping, snowshoeing, or cross-country skiing skills to include one- to two-week expeditions to places like Yellowstone or the Colorado or Canadian Rockies? Your chance to find out begins with this class. Starting in December 2010, I will be teaching the Basic Mountaineering and Safety Skills class to a few lucky students who are interested in devoting their time and energy to the sport of mountaineering and advanced winter adventure.



MANDATORY PREREQUISITES:

Basic Backpacking, Land Navigation or Adventure Race Class, Winter Camping (aka Enjoying Michigan Winters), Belay Card (Rock Gym)

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Location TBD (probably Birmingham Public Library), 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. (sharp)

Class 1	12/09/10	Thu.
Class 2	12/16/10	Thu.
Clinic	12/18/10	Sat.
Class 3	01/06/11	Thu.
Practical 1	01/07-09/11	Fri.-Sun.
Class 4	01/13/11	Thu.
Class 5	01/20/11	Thu.
Class 6	01/27/11	Thu.
Practical 2	01/28-30/11	Fri.-Sun

Words to Wander By

Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.

- Chief Seattle

Thanks to Pam Esper for submitting this quotation!



COST:

\$175.00 per person (check made out to SOLAR). Subtract \$17 if you own Mountaineering, Freedom of the Hills Edition 7 by The Mountaineers. Subtract \$12 if you own Glacier Mountaineering: An Illustrated Guide to Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue by Andy Tyson & Mike Clelland.

CONTACT: Lou Szakal, email: everest2008@comcast.net, or cell: 248-756-7001

SOME OF THE SKILLS, LESSONS AND ITEMS YOU'LL GET OUT OF THIS CLASS:

Self-arrest	Fixed Lines	Roped Travel
Running Belays	Risk Assessment	Snowshoeing Skills
Health/Fitness Tips	Avalanche Issues	Chest Harness
Camaraderie	Ice Axe Use	Basic Mountaineering Skills
Leadership	Navigation	Prusiks
Technical Tool Usage	Mountain Safety	First Aid Skills
How To Use Crampons	2" Binder	Nutrition
Knots	LNT	Weather
Sled Skills	Glacier Travel	Climbing Info
Group Dynamics	Frost Bite Issues	Winter Safety Skills
Z & C Pulley System	Optional Mountain Trip	Proper Clothing
Rappelling	Gear Issues	Effects of Cold
Reading Material	Crevasse Rescue	Expedition Planning
Environmental Ethics	Altitude Awareness	Ascending Ropes
Ropes/Webbing	Alpine Rescue	Team Building Skills
Stewardship	Movies	Clinic
Fun	Two Practicals	Two Mountaineering Books
Much, much more		

The Ray Needs Your Contributions!

by Jennifer Tislerics, SOLAR Ray Editor

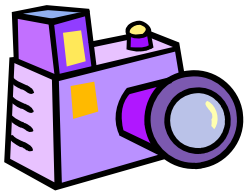
Do you enjoy reading stories about recent classes and activities? Do you appreciate detailed flyers about upcoming classes and trips? Fellow club members write these kinds of articles! Anyone can write up a story about his/her experience in a class or on a trip and submit it to the Ray. The Ray editor and assistant editors may polish it up a bit (spelling, grammar, organization, flow, etc.) or shorten it due to space limitations. If we make significant changes, we'll share the revised version with you before printing the article.

The following tips on submitting stories to the Ray should help make the process as smooth and efficient as possible for everyone involved.

Submitting a story and/or photos of a recent class or activity

If writing about the entire class/trip seems daunting, don't do it! Instead, write about a single day that was especially meaningful, a trick or tip you learned, an exceptional campsite or sunset, etc.

Consider including the names of everyone who was in the class or on the trip. Please make sure to spell their names correctly.

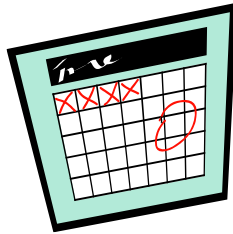


Send in a few photos to accompany the article—a picture is worth a thousand words. Don't have any photos? Ask other participants to share theirs. Captions are welcome (i.e., tell us who or what is in the photo).

Avoid abbreviations or acronyms, or at least spell them out the first time. Not everyone is familiar with the same lingo.

Write like you are telling a story to friends—because you are! Help readers get a sense of what it was like to be there and experience the things you did. Include some humor if you have the chance.

Please save your article in Microsoft Word or rich text format (RTF), and run spell-check before sending it. Attach the article to your email - do not write the article in the body of your email message. Do not include photos in the document - attach them to your email message as separate JPG files.



Be mindful of the monthly Ray deadline - submitting articles in advance provides the editorial team more time to polish up your article. Articles and photos submitted *after* the deadline may not be included in the print edition of the Ray, or might be put on hold until the following month. Ray deadlines are included in the monthly calendar (as space allows), and on the Meetup and solaroutdoors.org calendars. The Ray deadline is generally three Thursdays before the monthly membership meeting.

Submitting a flyer for an upcoming class or activity

Promoting your class or activity in the Ray helps to fill the available spots. Club members look for details like location, dates, costs and information on what they'll experience or learn. Including a list of any prerequisite classes or skills is important, too.

If you can, include a photo or two from a previous year's class/trip (as a separate JPG attachment).



Alternatively, clip art can add a bit of fun to flyers. You might include a hyperlink to online photos or a website related to the class/activity you are leading.

If you submit a pre-formatted flyer for the Ray, it may end up being reformatted due to space restrictions. We typically don't use WordArt or special fonts in the Ray.

If you don't have a flyer already created, you can just submit all the important information in paragraph and/or bullet-point form, and the editorial team can format it for the Ray.

Consider submitting *both* an unformatted flyer (with photos as separate JPG attachments) and a formatted flyer (WordArt, photos embedded). The unformatted flyer will be used as an article in the Ray, and the formatted one will be uploaded to the website and linked to from the calendar in the web edition of the Ray.

Again, be mindful of Ray deadlines. Flyers submitted *after* the deadline may or may not make it into the print edition of the Ray. Classes and activities which have not been placed on the SOLAR calendar by the Education or Activity Chairpersons will not be included in the Ray. Classes/activities not being run through SOLAR are not appropriate for the Ray.

If you have any questions about submitting an article or flyer for the Ray, you can reach me at SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org or catch me at one of our monthly meetings. I look forward to receiving many more photos, articles and flyers for the Ray in the coming months!

Women in the Woods 2010

Ever wonder why your pack doesn't fit right?

Where to find good women's backpacking clothes?

Why you still don't know how to light your stove?

Well, now you can get answers to these topics and more!



Workshop focuses on women's outdoor topics and hands-on equipment practice:

- Women-designed equipment, how to fit, where to find
- Hygiene/Health
- Safety in the woods
- Nutrition
- Exercise/Training for women
- Building self-confidence
- Knots
- Navigation
- Equipment review/practice- stoves, tents, tarps, water filters
- And much more!

NOTE that dates are corrected here, the original flyer was incorrect!

- September 15: Evening classroom session, location TBD (Royal Oak, Troy, or Southfield area)
- September 25-26: Proud Lake Recreation Area (Saturday 8:00 a.m. through Sunday 12:00 noon)
- October 15-17: Hiking practical at Red River Gorge, KY. Please note that we will begin hiking the morning of October 16, so you will need to drive down Thursday night after work.

Class Prerequisite: Beginning Backpacking Class. However, this course can be taken concurrently with the Fall Beginning Backpacking Class.

Class size: 16 students (A minimum of 8 students are needed to run the class.)

Cost: \$60.00

For questions or more information contact Pam Riehl Szakal at pariehl@gmail.com or 248-755-5873.

Beginning Backpacking Course - Fall 2010



One of our most popular classes, the Beginning Backpacking Class, starts this August. 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 people who a) never backpacked and have always wanted to try it, b) new members who need the class as a prerequisite for other advanced classes or just want to meet people, or c) members who just want a refresher or need an excuse to backpack.

Class begins August 26 and runs for six weeks (9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23 and 9/20). The weekend practicals are September 11, September 17 - 19 and October 8-10. Classes will be held in a location yet to be announced, and will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

You will need to participate each week, or make arrangements to review any pertinent information with a classmate. You should plan to attend all practicals to get the most out of the class. In order to attend the final practical at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in October, you must have completed the weekend practical in September.

The only prerequisites for this class are confirmation that you are a current, paid member of SOLAR and that you are interested in new experiences, new friends, or both! With the exception of hiking shoes or boots, you don't need to have your own gear - you will be able to borrow SOLAR gear for the class.

The class costs \$100, which includes a textbook, a class handbook, camping fees for both practicals, and dinner at Practical 1. Please bring cash or a check payable to "SOLAR" when you sign up for the class. Fees are payable at the August general meeting to guarantee your spot in the class, and must be paid before the first night of class.

Any questions regarding the class should be directed to Carol McCririe at cmccririe@sbcglobal.net or Leslie Cordova at lesliegene@aol.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Ati Tislerics, SOLAR Bylaws Chair

How long have you been a member of SOLAR? Since January, 2005. It's gone by fast!

How did you get involved with SOLAR? My wife, Jen, and I had done a little car-camping and were easing into more ambitious day hikes on our vacations. Without fully realizing it, I think we were moving toward backpacking, but we didn't

really know how to go about it, and one of us doubted our ability to survive for long away from four walls (or at least four wheels). And then, a work acquaintance of Jen's told her about the club, and gave her a brochure. That was Mary (Hall) Price, SOLAR's PR Chair at the time. Her timing was impeccable; it sounded like just what we needed to help us get some knowledge and experience in a structured, supportive environment.

What are some outdoorsy activities you enjoy? I like bicycling, day-hiking, snorkeling, SCUBA diving, kayaking, and a variety of other energetic pursuits, but backpacking is definitely #1. I enjoy the physical challenge, but what I enjoy even more is the mental challenge of relying solely on my own skills and preparation for days at a time. It's very satisfying to have only what I need, and need only what I have. And I love being able to go places and see things that you can't go or see any other way!

How did you start backpacking? It was long overdue. My family wasn't particularly outdoorsy, but we did do some car-camping and day-hiking each summer. On these occasions, I was the kid who was far ahead on the trail, or off exploring in the woods. I finally got my first chance to go backpacking in 1992, when I was a freshman in college. The trip didn't go as planned - one member of our group hurt her back, and had to be wheeled out on a gurney-like contraption. But, I had a good time, and intended to do more. And then, life got in the way: degree, career, marriage, second career, homeownership, second degree, second marriage (just kidding!)... Before I knew it, 13 years had elapsed. I got that long-awaited second chance thanks to SOLAR!

What has been your most rewarding experience in SOLAR? My first career was as a high school teacher, and I have really enjoyed putting that instructor's hat back on to help with various classes. I think of myself as a "backpacking generalist" and I remember well what it was like to be a novice at the activity. And, in contrast to my previous career, all the students want to be there!

Which classes have you taken through SOLAR? What class(es) do you wish were offered that are not currently? I've taken Basic Backpacking, Wilderness First Aid, Basic Land Navigation, Winter Camping ("Enjoying Michigan Winters"), and a few other one-off classes. Next on my list is Search and Rescue, and possibly Adventure Racing. Far more classes are available through SOLAR than I have time to take!

What has been your favorite trip/activity so far? The two-week John Muir Trail trip in 2008 was a terrific adventure - great territory, great company, great challenge. But, over the last five years Jen and I have enjoyed some great adventures of our own, too, and I'm immensely grateful to SOLAR for giving us the confidence to do so. We recently returned from eight days in Arizona's Superstition Wilderness.

What would your dream trip be like? The scenery would be gorgeous and varied, the terrain challenging, and the trails well-defined. The wildlife would be obligingly photogenic. There would be one, slow mosquito (smack!). The weather would be perfect, and change on request. My pack would have built-in antigravity coils. Of course, the company is critical too, so it would include all my favorite SOLARites and/or supermodels (trip organizers, please take note). As to a destination, gosh, the list just keeps getting longer: Iceland, Chile, Namibia, New Zealand, Yellowstone, the Wonderland Trail around Mt. Rainier, the Hundred Mile Wilderness in Maine...

Do you have any pets? Kids? Significant other? My highly significant other is my smart, wonderful, beautiful, generous, patient, forgiving wife, Jennifer, your SOLAR Ray editor, who will probably take this opportunity to insert some complimentary adjectives on her own behalf. Our "kids" all have four legs and tails. One of them is a permanent member of our household, plus a rotating cast of foster cats.

What inspired you to run for a Steering Committee position? I've been a vocal but unelected participant in Steering Committee meetings for three years now. I was ready to take on a more formal role, and when I saw how the next year's Steering Committee was shaping up, that sealed

the deal - I wanted to be a part of that team! I'm looking forward to a great year.

Tell us something about you that would surprise us! I'm only 5'2" tall, but I seem taller because I'm learning to levitate, as you can see from my photo.



FROM THE CORNER OF MY EYE...

A Ken Lemieux Adventure

By Glenn Schultz and Ken Lemieux

The call of the wild, the rustle of bushes...

Wilderness Awareness? As we sat on our tushes...

Yes, our pre-trip planning did include bear,
coyote and wolf and those of feline fare.

As we hiked the Tetons a number of days
our minds moved to other things, that was the way.

We circled around camp stove and bantered about
in the backcountry wilderness of trees and rocks.

At Sunset Lake, on that chilly summer's evening
there were many boulders that dotted the scenery.

Up the backside of one scurried a marmot
Then this fuzzy creature, decided to stand up!
Extending on its hind legs with its paws held high
It startled me so! Here, I'll try to explain why:

I caught this motion with peripheral vision
Surprising me so, that I jumped out of my skin!
A bear! A bear! My brain was wired!
My heart leaped up like my pants were on fire!

Eyes big as saucers, mine that is.
The hair on my neck...stood up like his.
In my panic I wondered: Where is the spray?
Hoped not to become this bear's dinner fillet!

And it was over as fast as it started
It was not a bear! It was just a marmot!
And as this creature chattered at me
I wondered what he laughed in "marmot-eeze".

So if you glance from the corner of your eye...
It could be a bear...or a marmot surprise!

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Fun Facts

Hummingbird eggs are
about the size of a pea,
or a TicTac breath mint.



Photos of the July "Moonlight Canoe" Trip

Submitted by Jeff Enterkin



SOLAR/Proud Lake Moonlight Canoeing

This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. Come to Proud Lake State Recreation Area and paddle a canoe or kayak into the setting sun, then return by paddling back into the moonrise. When you return to the canoe rental, a bonfire will be awaiting you. Each evening will include pizza dinner. No partner necessary, all skill levels are welcome. Dress for the weather, including headlamps and water bottles.

Who: All are welcome. Child and dog friendly.

Where: Heavner's Canoe Livery, 2775 Garden Road, Milford, Michigan 48381

Cost: Canoe or kayak \$30 per person. Includes pizza dinner, boat rental (canoe or kayak), bonfire. Boat rental only (no dinner) \$25 per person. Dinner only (bring your own boat) \$15 per person. Bonfire only (no dinner, bring your own boat) \$5 per person.



When: Five moonlight canoeing/kayaking trips will be offered this year. The next trip will be August 28; to see a [full schedule](#) visit the Files section of the Yahoo! Group, the [Meetup.com calendar](#) or click on the link in the Ray's calendar to view the flyer.

Preregister by calling Heavner Canoe Livery at (248) 685-2379. Please call in your reservation AT LEAST 24 hours before the event. Dinner will not be available for those who do not preregister. For more information call Margaret at 734-721-2821 or email her at mpluscat@yahoo.com.



Hayride and Bonfire

Kensington Metropark
Saturday, November 6, 2010
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Come join us for a fun filled evening at Kensington Metropark's farm center. A roaring bonfire will start at 6:00PM, followed by hayrides from 7:00PM until 9:00PM. Hot dogs, side salads and s'mores will be provided. You provide the roasting sticks and cook yourself.



Please bring lawn chairs, warm clothes, jackets and blankets.

This is open to all so bring your family, friends, neighbors or co-workers.

This is kid friendly but please leave your pets at home.

All this fun is yours for a mere \$15. You will need a daily (\$5) or annual (\$25) Metropark permit.

Interested? Contact Leslie Cordova at leseliegene@aol.com or (248) 547-5626.



Do you find yourself correcting the spelling and grammatical errors you find in brochures, on signs and in the newspaper? Well, then, the Ray Editor needs your help! We need a couple more Assistant Editors to polish up articles once a month. For more details, contact SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org.

SOLAR AUGUST 2010 CALENDAR

SOLAR MEETING AND PROGRAM DATES

8/3	Tues	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm	Colony Hall	Allen Duncan	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
		Program-An Overview of Fall/Winter Educational Opportunities	Colony Hall	Debbie Zuchlewski	SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org
9/7	Tues	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm	Colony Hall	Allen Duncan	SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org
		Program – TBA	Colony Hall	Debbie Zuchlewski	SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org

RAY DEADLINES

8/19	Thurs	September SOLAR Ray Deadline	n/a	Jennifer Tislerics	SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org
9/16	Thurs	October SOLAR Ray Deadline	n/a	Jennifer Tislerics	SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org

ACTIVITIES

8/7-13	Multi	Backpack Trip	Glacier National Park	Bill Lynch	blynch@mayne-mckenney.com
8/27-29	Wknd	Sleepy Hollow State Park	Clinton County , MI	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
8/28	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	Proud Lake State Park	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
8/28	Sat	Crim 10 Miler, Team Challenge	Flint, MI	Allen Duncan	aduncan85@gmail.com
9/3-6	Multi	Youghiogheny White Water Rafting	Ohio pyle, Pennsylvania	Dave Norkus	dnorkus@comcast.net
9/9 - 10/7	Multi	Gaelic Adventure	Ireland/Scotland	Jim Gessner	gessnerj@comcast.net
9/25	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	Proud Lake State Park	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
10/3-7	Multi	Adirondack Trip	Heart Lake near Lake Placid, New York	Don Wold	DWold12972@aol.com
10/16-17	Wknd	Jordan River Pathway Backpacking Trip	Antrim County, MI	Allen Duncan George Zapp	allenduncan@aggienetwork.com gzapp@comcast.net
10/23	Sat	Moonlight Canoe Paddle	Proud Lake State Park	Margaret Martin	mpluscat@yahoo.com
1/23-30/2011	Multi	Yellowstone in Winter Trip	Yellowstone National Park	Moe and Dave DeFrance	moelifeisgood@lavabit.com ventures@lavabit.com

CLASSES

8/18,25,28 9/1,8,9	Multi	Sporting Firearms	TBA	Grey Ivanov	greyofk@cucor.com
8/21	Sat	Intro to Geocaching	Kensington Metro Park	Jeff McWilliams and Clayton Lucey	jeff.mcwilliams@gmail.com clatmandu@yahoo.com
8/26, 9/2,9,11, 16,17-19, 23,30, 10/7-10	Thurs, Sat, Wknds	Fall Basic Backpacking	Royal Oak, MI Northville, MI Pinckney, MI Pictured Rock National Lakeshore	Carol McCrie	cmccrie@sbcglobal.net
9/15, 25-26, 10/15-17	Weds, Wknds	Women in the Woods 2010 Workshop	Classroom-TBA, practicals- Proud Lake and Red River Gorge	Pam Riehl Szakal	pariehl@gmail.com
12/1,8,15, 1/5,15-16,19,26, 2/2,11-13	Weds, Wknds	Enjoying Michigan Winters	TBA	Allen Duncan George Zapp	allenduncan@aggienetwork.com gzapp@comcast.net
12/9,16, 18,1/6-9,13,20, 27, 28-30	Thurs, Sat, Wknds	Basic Mountaineering and Safety Skills	TBA	Lou Szakal	everest2008@comcast.net

If you would like to plan/lead an activity for SOLAR, contact our Activities Chairperson, Jennifer McWilliams, at SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org.

If you would like to teach or suggest a class for SOLAR, contact our Education Chairperson, Chuck Smith, at 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.



WHAT IS SOLAR?

SOLAR is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization with 400-plus members who enjoy the outdoors. Members share their knowledge and experience with each other by leading classes and coordinating activities/trips.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is only \$40 a year per person (\$55 per family) and includes free access to most 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, deep forests, scenic shorelines, and the experiences to be found there. Lifetime memberships are available for \$175 (single) and \$250 (family).

MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month in Southfield at Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen (between 8 Mile & 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. To receive a copy in the mail, please contact Mary Price at SOLARmembership@solaroutdoors.org.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions for the *SOLAR Ray* are due on the Thursday three weeks prior to the monthly Membership meeting. Articles, poems, recipes, etc. should be submitted in electronic format, preferably in Microsoft Word. Please attach images separately as JPG files. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Tislerics at SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org.

STEERING COMMITTEE

President: Allen Duncan
Vice President: Heather Hall
Treasurer: Mary Donahue
Secretary: Glenn Schultz

Activities: Jennifer McWilliams
Bylaws: Ati Tislerics
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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 about 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 Allen Duncan at SOLARpresident@solaroutdoors.org.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SOLAR RAY ASSISTANT EDITORS

Winnie Chrzanowski, Jennifer Hill, Ken Lemieux, Janet Schester, Pamela Schmelzer-Anzicek, Elizabeth Shaw, Rebecca Sweeton and Ati Tislerics.

MORE INFORMATION

Please visit our website at www.solaroutdoors.org or attend one of our monthly meetings.

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