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SOLAR RAY

## Getting Blasted

BY KEN LEMIEUX


| In this issue |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Getting Blasted | I |
| Fordan River |  |
| Sbakedown | 3 |
| Nordhouse Dunes Beach |  |
| Cleanup | 4 |
| Wilderness State Park | 4 |
| Cuyaboga Hike and Bike 5 |  |
| Education Committee | 12 |
| Upcoming events $\quad 10$, |  |

In June of last year some SOLAR friends of mine were doing the SMART Blast Adventure Race in my home town of Clarkston. I knew adventure racing involved paddling, biking, and orienteering with a teammate and that this was a 6 hour race. Being a curious fellow I decided to go down to Depot Park and check out the action. Luckily for me, when I got there they were doing the canoeing portion of the race and I was able to position myself to take photos. That night I laid awake, strategizing what I would have done had I been a participant. The seed was planted; I was determined to take Pam Riehl's Adventure Racing class in 2011.

## Class

Fast forward to late February, 2011, the first night of class. It had already been announced that the focus of the class would be to prepare the students for the 2011 SMART Blast, which was once again being held in Clarkston. Pam asked each of the dozen or so students to introduce themselves and state their goals for the class. When it was my turn, I announced I intended to have fun and finish in the top half of the 2011 Blast.

The AR class consisted of four classroom sessions spread out over six weeks, followed by orienteering, biking, and paddling clinics, and a three hour mini-race. The classes covered training, nutrition, orienteering, bike maintenance, gear, paddling, and various
 related topics. Jeff McWilliams suggested keeping a training calendar, which was really a great idea; it helped me to track my progress and encouraged me to ramp it up in the weeks before the race. I was impressed with the knowledge and enthusiasm of the instructors and really appreciated the manner in which the information was presented. Kudos to all involved!
The class culminated in a three hour mini-race two weeks before the Blast. I did well in each of the clinics and thought that putting it all together for the mini-race at Proud Lake would be pretty simple. Well, it turns out that in this case the sum did not equal the parts. The mini-race was purposely run to simulate a real race and therefore was much more


Wow! what a bumpy ride my first month as Ray editor has been! My first edition as editor will (hopefully)make it on to the web before the monthly meeting, but has no chance of being mailed to those of you who still receive the paper copy before that meeting. I have a newfound level of respect for all the hard work and organization that Jennifer Tislerics and other former editors have shown in taking on this volunteer position.

The thing I feared most when I signed on was that I would not get enough submissions to put out a good Ray... boy, was I mistaken about that one. We have several great articles from club members, new and old, about SOLAR activities from the last month. All came with great pictures and minimal prodding from me, and I've been able to piece them together into a newsletter I
truly hope you'll enjoy reading and sharing with others.

One thing that has become very clear to me is that this only works with your help (and with the help of a highly skilled and dedicated set of assistant editors). When you go on a trip or activity advertised through SOLAR, take a few pics, jot down a few ideas and send us an article. Don't worry about your writing skills or your grammar. That's our job. We just want to help you to share the enjoyment that you get out of being involved with this really cool group!

We'd also like to hear what you want to see in the Ray!

> Submit articles, ideas and comments to solarrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org

On another note, if you receive the Ray in the mail and would like to change your preference to web-only, please contact Jen T at solarmembership@solaroutdoors.org.

## YOUR NEW 201ヶ-20ı2 STEERING COMMITTEE

Back row: Glenn Newa (Equipment), Sheila Smith (Ray Editor), Tim Davis (ByLaws), Kevin Cotter (Education), Ati Tislerics (Secretary), Bob Innes (Webmaster), Laura Buhl (Vice President)

Front row: Paul Williford (Treasurer), Heidi Tietjen (Activities), Jen Tislerics (Membership), Chuck Smith (President), Chip Kleinbrook (Historian)

Not Pictured: Jennifer Hill (Public Relations)


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## JORDAN RIVER "SHAKEDOWN"- 2oı SOLAR MOUNTAINEERING CLASS



The Jordan River was ice cold, which was perfect because we needed to cool off. The members of the SOLAR Mountaineering class who participated in the hike couldn't wait to get their feet wet. The group had just finished a rigorous 18-mile hike with fully loaded packs that began at
 6:30 AM and wrapped up around 4:30 PM. This was the Jordan River "Shakedown." Everyone had been anticipating this hike since the class began in November 2010.

Previous to this hike, the group had shared a cabin in the Brighton State Recreation area in December and had also spent a couple of chilly nights camping at the Nordhouse Dunes in late January. Twenty semi-strangers sleeping in tents in the middle of January got up at 11:30 PM, put their packs on, got roped up and walked around the dunes until 2 AM. If it sounds crazy to you, and you are a SOLAR member, try explaining this to family and friends.

These practicals were filled with training exercises, mountaineering education, real life experiences and great times with new friends. All of these events were designed to prepare us for the eventual solar member, try explaining this to

opportunity to climb Mt. Olympus and Mt. Rainier.

So now we have hiked, sweated, broken bread, tented and learned together. On June 24, the first group will fly to Seattle and begin the 25mile hike and climb to the top of Mt. Olympus. Four other members of the class will join them on July 3 for the climb to the summit of Mt. Rainier.

As we get closer to the departure, several key members of our group have suffered injuries, preventing them from getting on the mountain. The training required for this climb has taken months, and we have found that training carries risk. As we age, the body resists the effort to get back in shape, and injuries take longer to heal. As of now, the injured members of the party will still be traveling out west; they have already purchased flights and paid for the shared food and lodging. They will be providing logistical support and sharing their experiences right up to the minute we leave the Rainforest hostel. They will be eating and drinking and sleeping well, and like parents waiting for their teenagers to come home late at night, they will be wondering if we are going to make it. Or maybe not. $\qquad$

Top: Mount Rainier
Second: Solar Mountaineering Class at the Nordhouse Dunes, near Lake Michigan, January 25, 2011
Third: Group members at trailhead
Bottom: 2011 Solar Mountaineering Class at the Jordan River "Shakedown" June 5, 2011
continued on p. 8

## NORDHOUSE DUNES BEACH CLEANUP

## BYKEVIN COTTER

Nordhouse Dunes, part of the Manistee National Forest between Ludington and Manistee, is the only federally designated wilderness area in the Lower Peninsula. It features a four mile sandy beach along Lake Michigan, bordered by sand dunes and forests. Unfortunately, the wilderness area designation does not protect the beach from litter left behind by hikers not versed in Leave No Trace, or the debris that washes on the shore from somewhere else, possibly Wisconsin. Popped balloons, cigarette butts, bottle caps, plastic mini-cigar tips, and broken glass are out of place on any beach, much less in an area that should be devoid of human development. This debris is more than an eyesore; birds will sometimes mistake these items for food and choke to death trying to eat them.

Six SOLAR members (Vera Morris, our trip leader, Heidi Tietjen, Inge Bricio, Karen Stauble, John Ostrowski, and
myself) arrived on Friday, June 3 to work on clearing some of this debris from the beach. We stayed at the Lake Michigan Recreation Area campground which borders Nordhouse Dunes, eyeing a weather forecast that called for rain on Saturday when we were supposed

continued on p. 9


The Wilderness State Park trip on Memorial weekend was a wonderful opportunity for relaxation and recreation. This was an open event, which gave ample opportunity to explore many outdoor activities. Leslie and Gene gave the group a warm welcome on Friday. Two large cabin-style bunkhouses held everyone. About 37 SOLAR members

WILDERNESS STATE PARK MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

BY ROSEMARIE ATTILIO AND CYNTHIA BALKWELL
arrived, many with duplicate names (3 Roses, 2 Cindys, 2 Toms, 2 Debbies...) As we were new members at our first SOLAR event, name memorization was a bit challenging.

The evenings brought camaraderie by the campfire. Many stories and laughs were shared over roasting Spring Spheres (marshmallows). The night time was filled with a symphony of frog and toad calls and the orchestral sound of a wellrehearsed jazz ensemble of snores.

People scattered like billiard balls during the day. The opportunities seemed endless. Wilderness State Park is one of the crown jewels of Michigan's natural areas. Over 8000 acres of beach and trail were ours to explore, not to mention many other wonderful attractions nearby. A few chose to mountain bike the trails in the park. Others biked or walked Mackinac Island. With Saturday's weather a little gloomy we chose to go with our new SOLAR friend Nancy to the colonial Fort Michilimackinac. The fort held a pageant and re-
continued on p. io

## CUYAHOGA HIKE AND BIKE



What a wonderful weekend!! Great biking, absolutely wonderful hiking and amazing people attended this event. Someone said to me "17 people - wow, well that's going to hard to coordinate, have fun" (I'm not sure if "fun" was the thought here). Nope, we didn't all stick together and somehow the mix of SOLAR and BSH seemed to work well with a combination of couples and singles talking about what we wanted to do, compromising on what we did, start times, etc. And, the weather was sunny, not too hot, not too cool, and not at all windy! Exactly what hikers and bikers love.

So, what did we do? Those that could met up on Friday afternoon at one of the metroparks. We ate our picnic lunch then started riding. I think there was a comment of 'will I survive the weekend of Carol's activities?'. The hills were higher than I thought (or was it rose colored glasses after after a full season of training and my memory from a late fall trip a few years back), so many of us walked our bikes up the hills (yep,
including me... not sure when I last walked a bike up a hill).

Afterwards, we checked into the hotel and left to do a hike in another metropark. It is amazing that all of OH parks are free and well maintained (along with the roads, so it must be those high toll road fees!).

Next, dinner (what Solar or BSH event doesn't include food?) was wonderful. All restaurants were unknown all thanks to google maps, restaurants' websites and then talking with the businesses about reservations for, yes, 17 people with many separate checks.

Saturday - a day on a train, biking back, eating lunch on the trail, then hiking the ledges and walking into a few caves and the "ice box", all followed by a late dinner.

Sunday - the group decided not to do a hike with a ranger. Some didn't want to do a 9+ mile hike. The thought of hiking with 40+ people and an early start (meaning - pack up/load cars and check out before 830AM) wasn't a plan we (as a group or individually) decided we wanted. So, with much research beforehand, we did the route of the Brandywine Falls (amazing with all the rain), then drove to Blue Hen and, in fine SOLAR tradition, winged it. We took a

## BY CAROL ROGERS

reading (just in case) of where we started @ Blue Hen and ventured out on a closed trail ("closed" is just a suggestion...eh?) in search of the elusive Buttermilk Falls.

We walked up and down muddy/

slippery trails (due to rain overnight), across the creek, down the creek, across the creek - 3,4 , maybe more times and then up the creek banks until we heard - was it the falls??? WOW...Buttermilk Falls was an amazing find - falls over slate. Did । say it was amazing?

After many photo ops, jokes, checking out the rocks (nope, no Petoskey stones), relaxing and enjoying our "find", we headed back. Seems like we made it back to Blue Hen quicker than the initial walk. Was it worth it? ABSOLUTELY - to discount the photographer that said our friends (Bill and Carmen) were crazy to attempt to cross the creek and stated it wasn't worth it. Maybe he didn't find the gem that we did! We did run
continued on p. I2
difficult than the clinics. And Michigan being, well, Michigan, the temperature for the race ended up being quite a bit higher than it had been during this unusually cool spring. In fact, the high temperature the day of the race, according to www.accuweather.com was a muggy 84 degrees; a week prior it had been 51.

My partner in the mini-race and the Blast was a fellow student, Shelly Riddell. Shelly, as well as several other students, "bonked" during the mini- race (although I didn't bonk, I came very close to losing my breakfast). "Bonk" is a common AR term that describes what happens to you when you are exercising vigorously and not taking in enough fuel for your body to sustain the pace. Still, the end of the race was very exciting as Shelly and I were racing not only the clock, but also Linda Ringlein and Nuala Crotty back to the finish line. It was nearly a photo finish as Linda and Nuala crossed the finish line a few seconds before us; we crossed with 30 seconds to spare. Finishing after the allotted time results in a team being "unranked." When the points were added up, we were third out of seven teams. We learned many valuable lessons, especially regarding nutrition and hydration (and to have Shelly carry the passport so that I wouldn't keep misplacing it). Shelly and I needed a new plan if we were to survive a race twice as long.

## The Blast

The first forecast I saw for the Blast was a very agreeable 72 degrees. A couple days later it was revised to 91 . I can genuinely tell you that my peeps and I were concerned. As the days progressed the forecast bounced around a bit before settling in the mid-80s. The actual high the day of the race was 88 .

Shelly and I focused on purchasing food we could consume on the run and would easily be turned into energy: things like GU Energy Gel, PowerBar Energy Gel Blasts, Gatorade, etc. We also agreed not to go at the breakneck pace we did during the mini-race and to rest when needed. I really believe the hot forecast helped us in planning as we were more concerned with surviving than pushing the pace too much.

After months of physical and mental preparation, June 4 was finally upon us. At the pre-race meeting we were given our maps and miscellaneous info to plot our route (note that in an adventure race none of this information is disclosed until shortly before the race). This version of the Blast included sections in Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, single-track mountain biking, two orienteering courses, canoeing from

Maceday Lake back to Clarkston, and the big surprise: horseback riding. Even as a rookie, I could tell this was going to be tough.

At the 8 AM start of the race they separated team members into two groups: those with maps (me) went

to one end of Depot Park and put on a blindfold, those without went to the other end (Shelly). When the race began, our teammates had to come get us and lead us toward the bikes where we jettisoned the blindfolds.

From that point it was a mad scramble via bike to PLRA (map: http://tiny.cc/ihkh0). Control Point 1 (CP1) was on Maceday Lake Rd. near Teggerdine Rd. Then we had to go to the horse stable where each team had to have one person ride while the other guided the horse (I was the guide). They had 20 horses; unfortunately, we were the 22nd team to get there, so rather than wait, we went orienteering in the area for an hour and then came back for the horses. It was somewhere around this point that Linda and Nuala (SOLAR Energy) paired up with us (SOLAR Express) and we kept together for the rest of the race. Teaming up was a good idea for obvious reasons, and Linda, being an experienced racer (and one of the class instructors), was also able to provide perspective we three rookies did not have.

As far as the other teams were concerned, for the most part, the other racers were nice and helped point teams in the right direction. I definitely felt a nice camaraderie vibe throughout the event.

After the horseback riding we had to bike back towards Teggerdine Rd. to pick up the mountain biking trail. There were 3 CPs on the trail and a couple towards the end. We rode about 5-6 miles of single track before coming to the next orienteering
continued on p. 7

## GETTING BLASTED (continued from p. 6)

area. We got our mandatory CPs, looked for a few others we could not locate, and then got back on our bikes. We exited PLRA via Maceday Rd. and headed up Nelsey Rd. to Andersonville Rd., which is 45 MPH , busy, winding, and has very little in the way of a shoulder. In the many scenarios I'd played out in my head I never thought we'd go on such a road. But we did, multiple times.
CP19 was in a subdivision that we were heading for when suddenly Shelly's front tire blew out. Linda and Nuala helped us change the flat. We then discovered one of Shelly's front brake pads was MIA. We were unsure if that caused the flat, but now she had to ride with a partially inflated tire and no front brakes. Shelly's a gamer, though, and went on without complaint.

As a shortcut, we rode on train tracks to the subdivision. Of course on the map we were given none of the roads in that area were labeled and the subdivision was like a maze. We asked a bystander where Windiate Rd. was and he pointed us in completely the opposite direction. We had been mere yards from it, but the key thing was, I forgot "Park" in the name of the street. Many of the streets in this subdivision were named very similarly. So instead of trusting my instincts, we took off on a wild goose chase in the wrong direction. By the time we found CP19 and then got to CP20 and the canoes, they told us we were too late and to bike back to Depot Park.
On the way to Depot Park via Maceday Lake Rd., a road I've driven hundreds of times in my car, I blew out my rear tire. A big gash in not just the tube but the tire as well. We encouraged Linda and Nuala to continue to Depot Park. We tried to change the flat but, wouldn't you know it, my spare which I'd never used - had a large hole in it as well. So we had to break out my cell phone and call
for a ride. I cannot tell you how dejected I was.

Prior to the race I looked at last year's Blast photos and decided that since most people wore shorts and I'd never had poison ivy, I'd wear shorts too. Well, I ended up with poison ivy, welts, scratches, a rash, and lots of red on both legs. The pollen was so bad I could hardly see during the car ride home (I have horrible hay fever allergies and later realized I should have taken a higher dose of medication). Fortunately, during the awards ceremony that followed the race Nuala got a tube of Zanfel poison ivy treatment cream and gave it to me (by the next day my legs looked much, much better and all that remained were the scratches). The organizers insisted our team got second place in the co-ed division (which when the official rankings came out, clearly we did not), so Shelly and I each got to pick a prize; I took a Union Woodshop $\$ 25$ gift certificate. I think they were showing pity on me!
Jason Brown and Nick Stremer (SOLAR Eclipse), fellow students in the class, cleared the course and finished with 30 seconds left, earning $5^{\text {th }}$ place overall. Amazing job, guys! SOLAR was well represented with six teams.
Despite the heat, Shelly and I did very well keeping fueled and hydrated. I was very proud of my partner; she made huge strides since bonking in the mini-race. We heard a lot of teams, for various reasons, had to call for help.

Everyone has heard the term "fog of war." l'd like to introduce a new one: the "fog of adventure racing."

## K. LEMIEUX

We repeatedly saw teams that were far from where we thought they were supposed to be. For example, we came across four women walking on the single track biking trail near the RC aircraft field, nowhere near the
orienteering courses (we later heard they were hopelessly lost and had to call for help). It really starts to mess with your mind as you wonder if they are way off or you are.

## Summary

I thoroughly enjoyed this class. About half the people who took the class did not participate in the race. But that's OK; adventure racing certainly isn't for everyone and they got to try something new.

Sue Segel (Swamp Squaws and also an instructor) said she thought this was a difficult race. She is correct; only 13 out of 55 teams ended up "ranked"; in a typical 6 hour race $80-90 \%$ of the teams finish ranked.

In the end we finished in $26^{\text {th }}$ place, putting us just in the top half of the Blast. And despite the flat tires, I had a ton of fun, therefore accomplishing both of my goals for the class/race. Next time though, I will wear long pants and bring a functional spare!

## Day Three

Since the first time I hoisted a pack
And set out to explore the planet under my own power
I have known that there is magic
On Day Three.
After two days and nights on a trail I am Somewhere Else In space, and in my mind.
Cares of my "real" life fade into the background. I settle into a new routine - simple, Governed by the sun.

Broken in, not broken down
Trailhead worries come to naught.
My load feels easier
Or am I stronger?
I can carry on
Having all I need, needing only what I have Everything in its place.

Leisure to explore the dusty alcoves of my mind Sometimes surprised by what I find there,
Even some free verse.

## Ati Tislerics



# Words to Wander By 

Backpacking: "An<br>extended form of hiking<br>in which people carry double the amount of gear they need for half the distance they planned to go in twice the time it should take."<br>~Author Unknown

"SHAKEDOWN" (CONTINUED FROM P. 3)
The Olympus hikers will be on the trail starting on June 26 and after hiking almost 25 miles, hope to summit on June 28. They will travel through rain forest, alpine meadows and sleep on glaciers. They will be alone; there will not be expedition guides identifying the safest route or advice from experienced teams that have recently completed the climb.

The remaining participating leaders seemed to have doubled their efforts to ensure the climb will be successful. The first timers have also assumed additional responsibilities to seek out and obtain information including trail conditions and shared this with the group. Will the Olympus team have the weather, conditions and clarity of judgment to climb this mountain? One thing for sure is that there will be a few stories to tell, either way.

The Rainier climb will begin on Tuesday, July 5, and will ascend almost 4,800 vertical feet on the first day. Arriving at Muir Camp, we will make kitchens and latrines and prepare a camping site on the glacier. We will acclimate ourselves to the altitude and then at around 11:00 PM on Wednesday, July 6, we will get up out of our nice warm sleeping bags and begin the final climb to the summit. Hoping to arrive by 7 AM we will be at an elevation of 14,410 feet!

We had our final gear check out this past Wednesday. Brandon Nasciamento, one of our students now living in Portland OR, actually emailed pictures of his gear so that it could be checked out by an instructor.

Five of us had a final hike together Saturday, June 18. All that is left is blister triage and then off to the airport!

## J. LEMIRE

For now it is comforting to know that we have been learning, training and preparing for seven months and we have tried to minimize the potential risk and danger.

The strength of the group is in the dedication of the core members who have completed this trip before and have shared their time and knowledge with those who are doing this for the first time.

I am constantly amazed at the SOLAR organization and the quality of people who made this such a great experience. All of the students agree that we have had excellent exposure to this fascinating sport and would like to thank all of those teachers who participated:

Lou Szakal, Pam Riehl, Gary Wilkinson, Mike Pniewski, Marie Martinko, Mike Schick, Chris Meyers, Tom Black

## NORDHOUSE (continued from p. 4)

to be cleaning the beach. Karen, a new SOLAR member, was an instant hit with her Dutch oven. She made us a delicious apple cobbler while we gathered firewood and waited for the rest of the group to arrive. We made sure that John, who arrived last, had a piece.

Saturday morning we saw the skies clear for the weekend. Grateful that the weather forecast was wrong, we headed to the beach with garbage bags, gloves, sunscreen, and a sense of humor for the cleanup. To our surprise, we didn't find much large debris, just a large net and some balloons. We did have to keep our eyes peeled for the smaller stuff, the kind that is deadly to birds, but there was plenty to find. Cigarette butts were numerous but outnumbered by plastic white mini-cigar tips and numerous white caps that looked like they had exploded. Of course, I also had to go in the waters of Lake Michigan in case there was any debris there. Several times, just to be sure.

After scouring the beach for a few hours, we headed back to camp for lunch, and then spent the rest of the day hiking in Nordhouse Dunes. Our map showed some trails in the forest overlooking and behind the beach, and a ranger we talked to said that the trail junctions are easy to follow. As it happens, the wilderness area has trails, but being a wilderness area, there are no signs marking the
junctions or showing where the trails lead. We had intended to follow a trail going south to a junction with two connecting trails, one of which leads to a loop back to camp. After searching, we could only find a junction with one connecting trail. Some in our group headed back to camp, the rest decided to follow that trail, not quite sure where it would lead. As it happened, we ended up on a longer hike to Nordhouse Lake. Our efforts were rewarded with the sighting of a bald eagle flying over the water. We then hiked back to camp at a faster clip in order to get dinner started on time. The usual SOLAR potluck ("usual" meaning "way too much food") was very successful with a variety of culinary delights. Definitely one of the best, and healthiest, potlucks any of us have had in awhile.

Of course, no evening near Lake Michigan would be complete without watching the sunset, and we were not disappointed. There was just enough cloud cover to make it interesting, with red and orange glowing all over the western sky. I went into the water hoping to get a closer view. Afterwards, we spent the evening enjoying a fire using the wood we (okay,
 mostly John) had gathered, until the sun, sand, hiking, and food caused us to fall asleep.

Sunday morning we decided to squeeze in one more hike before heading home, this time setting out for Nordhouse Lake, hoping to see another bald eagle. Again, our navigation skills came up short, and we followed a couple of unmarked trail junctions that led us in a circle. We then changed our route to head south along Lake Michigan to the area damaged by the June 2008 tornado. Being a wilderness area, there have been no efforts to clean up or even clear the trails (we had to hike over or around some downed trees). This gave us a rare view of what a recovering forest looks like; around all the broken and uprooted trees, there are already saplings growing in the areas cleared by the tornado. We then turned around back to camp, feasted on leftovers from the potluck, and then headed home with a new appreciation of wilderness.

## WILDERNESS (continued fromp.4)

R. ATTILIO AND C. BALKWELL

enactment event, showing the history of ownership and key events involving the French, British, and Native Americans. We decided not to miss out, and dressed up in the British uniform in one of the historic buildings.

Back at the campsite, Cynthia and Janet took the opportunity to get some extra tips from Ati on compass skills for their navigation class. Other SOLARites toured Mackinaw City, returning with wonderful pear taffy which was added to the spring spheres at the second nightly campfire.

Sunday brought a bit nicer weather. We were greeted in the parking lot by the Ranger, checking to ensure we had purchased our recreation passport on our car license plates. He gave an excellent explanation as to the benefits of the recreation passport to the state parks, and let us know you also get discounts at various venues. He advised us to check our Michigan state government website as they are adding the names of the places that offer the various discounts.

Sunday also brought out the hikers. A few chose to hike a 12 mile adventure trail. Another group went to Tahquamenon Falls in the Upper Peninsula. Some enjoyed just staying in the campsite, reading and relaxing by the campfire. We chose to join 2 of our new friends, Nancy and Janet,
to explore the beautiful sand shores of Lake Michigan's beach trail.

We both found this event to be a great opportunity to meet other SOLAR members and learn about their adventures with SOLAR. We were greatly impressed with the welcoming atmosphere of the group. The many introductions and invitations to join in the various activities taking place helped us feel
 right at home. We are both looking forward to our next SOLAR adventure.

# Weekend at My Mom's: Just Your Average Family-Friendly, Bike-Riding, Balloon-Viewing, Firework-Ooohing, Pool-Partying, Burger-Grilling, Canoe-Paddling, Overall-Good-Time 

July 16 -17, 2011
Ok, it's not usually that exciting at my mom's house in Jackson but this weekend will be great! Come for all or part of this family-friendly weekend and enjoy summer activities and the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee.

The plan:

- Ride the beautiful, flat, paved Falling Water Trail from Jackson to Concord, 30 mile round trip.
- The Hot Air Jubilee is happening in Ella Sharp Park just a mile away. The evening balloon launch is at 7:00 pm. This is followed by music, a night time balloon glow, and fireworks. Free admission. http://www.hotairjubilee.com/
- Jump in the backyard pool, play croquet, bocce ball, or whatever games people bring. (Please, nothing with darts, arrows, or sharp points. Don't ask me how I know this.)
- Cookout with burgers, brats, Bocca-burgers, soft drinks. Bring a dish to pass. BYOB. \$5.00/person, payable in advance.
- You can pitch a tent in the backyard or camp on the carpeted floor or maybe even snag a bed or sofa.
- On Sunday, paddle down the north branch of the

Kalamazoo River from Concord to Albion starting at noon. This is hosted by the Grand River Environmental Action Team. Free but reservations required. Call 517 416-4234 to reserve a GREAT canoe/kayak. http://www.great-mi.org/calendar2.htm

■ Alternate activities include hiking at the Dahlem Nature Center, paddling the Grand River or a lake, golf, paddleboats and playground, kid-friendly biking in the neighborhood. I'll have a list and maps handy.


## What the Education Committee does

Kevin Cotter, Education Chair

A frequent suggestion from the recent membership survey was that the Steering Committee share more information about what it does. This article is the first of a series responding to that suggestion.

Most of the positions on the Steering Committee are chairs of other committees, such as Education, Activities, Membership, etc. The best way to describe what the Education Chair does is to describe the Education Committee (EC).

## The role of the EC

Section 4.4 of the SOLAR bylaws defines the role of the EC as follows:
To coordinate and promote educational programs offered through S.O.L.A.R; develop and maintain related guidelines; assist and support members who develop, instruct, organize and/or promote these programs and explore new areas that may be of interest to members of S.O.L.A.R.

The variety and depth of classes offered by SOLAR are among the most attractive benefits of membership. Nearly all members have taken a course at some point; for many members, their first SOLAR course is their introduction to the club and the first chance to meet other like-minded members. Some people join SOLAR in order to take a specific class they have heard about, such as Beginning Backpacking, Adventure Racing, or Mountaineering.

SOLAR courses are entirely the work of many volunteers, particularly lead and assistant instructors. The purpose of the EC is to support and assist these instructors in their efforts, to encourage and support offering new classes on topics of interest to our members, and to help ensure that these classes provide a rewarding and satisfying experience for both students and instructors.

## New courses

Members are encouraged to suggest ideas for new courses to the EC. The EC supports courses that are consistent with the purpose of SOLAR (interest in the outdoors), likely to be of interest to our members, and can be run in a safe and responsible manner. A new course needs a lead instructor (or instructors), so be prepared to take that role if you suggest a new course. Fortunately, there will likely be other members who have the time and expertise to help, including members of the EC.

Offering a new course involves a lot of details, and the EC will work with a new lead instructor to put everything together. Some considerations about new courses are the following:

What can students expect to learn in the course; what topics will be covered?
How much time (classroom sessions, weekend practicals) will be needed? What expenses will be involved with the class? How much will participants be charged to cover expenses?
What arrangements need to be made for classroom meeting rooms and weekend practicals?

Will additional people (assistant instructors) be needed?
What previous courses or experience will be required?
What equipment or materials will students need? Which of these will be provided as part of the course, and which can be borrowed from SOLAR?

Are there potential safety issues?
Every SOLAR class involves a standard liability waiver that everyone must sign, and there are some standard rules (no alcohol, no children under 18) to help keep everyone safe. These are sufficient for most classes. Some classes may involve other potential risks. Is there an outside group that can be brought in to offer the class? This may be best when the class involves certification of instructors or the course itself (e.g., American Red Cross for first aid, PADI for SCUBA diving).

Please don't let this list scare you! The EC is here to help you with these details, and to help make sure your course is both successful and fun. Most of us have been involved with courses, either as lead or assistant instructors. Sharing knowledge and experience is part of what SOLAR is all about.

## Support for ongoing courses

The EC announces course offerings through the monthly general meeting, the SOLAR website, the SOLAR Ray, and Meetup.com. Finances, including student payments for classes and reimbursement for expenses are processed by the EC. The EC works with each lead instructor to make sure his/her

CUYAHOGA (continued from p. 5)

into Ranger Pam \& her group on their way to the falls when we were walking back.

I personally can't say enough about the friends (old/new) that made this trip - I actually was able to either hike and bike and take a car ride to a hike or to
C. ROGERS
dinner with most of the individuals and spent so much time getting to know everyone better.

As a side note, if you plan a trip down to Cuyahoga and want input, I will be happy to answer any questions.

## EDUCATION (continued from p.II)

## K. COTTER

course is running smoothly and to help deal with any issues that may come up before or during the course.

## End of course surveys

The EC administers an online survey at the end of every course. Students and assistant instructors are asked to anonymously provide feedback about their experiences in the course. The EC has questions that are included in every survey and lead instructors can add their own questions if they wish. Survey recipients may make additional comments and suggestions. The results are shared with the lead instructors and the EC, and are used to make changes and improvements in courses.

## Recognition of instructors

The success of SOLAR is the result of the efforts of numerous volunteers over many years. It's easy, and natural, to take success for granted and focus on glitches and breakdowns (which do happen!). The EC works to properly recognize the hard work of our instructors and make sure they are appreciated.

## Additional comments/feedback

I welcome all suggestions, comments, or feedback about this article, the role of the EC, what I am doing, or on SOLAR courses. You can email me at SOLAREducation@solaroutdoors.org.

## New Faces, New Friends

## by Jennifer Tislerics, Membership Chairperson



SOLAR members may see a lot of new faces around Colony Hall in the next few months! We hope to welcome many members of the Michigan Council of Hostelling International (www.hi-michigan.org) as new SOLAR members. Due to a reorganization within HI, the Michigan Council may be incorporated into the National Council soon. The local leadership has been finding creative ways to help its members pursue their passions here in Michigan before the group is restructured.

Knowing that many HI members enjoy many of the same outdoor activities that SOLAR members do, the Michigan Council of HI is making a donation of $\$ 2000$ to SOLAR, and in exchange SOLAR is offering a onetime discount on annual or lifetime SOLAR memberships for up to 100 HI members.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to members of HI's Michigan Council. We are excited to have new friends join us for outdoor adventures!


## Beginning

## Backpacking Class

Class dates:
Dates: Thursdays, August 18 and 25 and September 8, 15, 22, and 29. (No class on September $1^{\text {st }}$ due to Labor Day)
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Location: To Be Determined
Saturday, September $10^{\text {th }}$ - day hike and equipment demo at Maybury State Park. Friday night to Sunday afternoon, September 23-24, 2011 overnight practical at Brighton Recreation Area.
Friday morning to Sunday afternoon, October 7-9, 2011 final practical at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

## Cost:

$\$ 110$ (and you must be a dues paid SOLAR club member). Cost includes textbook, class handbook, camping fees for both practicals, and dinner at practical \#1. Cost does not include meals at practicals (with exception of dinner above), state park fees, and travel costs for practicals.

## Prerequisites:

No prerequisites are necessary. You do not need your own gear, except for hiking boots. All other gear can be borrowed from SOLAR.

## Minimum Requirements:

You must participate in the Maybury day hike, the overnight practical at Brighton Recreation Area, AND participate in the group trip planning for the second practical trip in order to get a class certificate and to participate in the Pictured Rocks trip.

Class Instructors:
Carol McCririe (810) 523-0132 mobile Leslie Cordova (248) 421-2080 mobile cmccririe@sbcglobal.net lesliegene@aol.com

## Canoe with <br> Wayne <br> Therapeutic <br> Program and Therapeutic



Attention canoe captains! Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation Program and Westland Therapeutic Recreation Program, which provide recreation and leisure programs for people with impairments, need volunteer canoeing teachers for their next canoe outing at Proud Lake Recreation area in Wixom, Michigan.

This is a fun afternoon where you can share your canoeing skills while having a great time! We'll meet at Heavner's Canoe Rental at Proud Lake, canoe along the river, and then take a break before returning to the rental facility. Snacks are provided at the break stop.

Your bowman will be very inexperienced so you must be able to handle a canoe independently This trip is free to the volunteers. Those who would like to come, but do not wish to canoe with a therapeutic program member, are invited to rent a canoe and come along... the more the merrier !!

When: Time:

Saturday, August 27, 2011
Meet at $12: 30 \mathrm{pm}$, instructions.provided at that time
Canoers will arrive at $1: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ There will be a bonfire with hot dogs and a sing along after returning to the canoe rental.

For more information contact:
Margaret Martin (mmartin@cityofwestland.com) 734-722-7620
Debi Marlow (dmarlow@cityofwestland.com) 734-497-7796
Sandi Moebs (sandiwest@aol.com) 734-564-4250

## Directions: From Detroit take I-96 West to Wixom Rd., Exit and go north. From

 Brighton/Lansing take I-96 East to Wixom Rd., Exit and go North. Proceed through the town of Wixom, and then follow the brown State Park signage to Proud Lake. The Canoe rental will be on the left side of the road.
## Mooseiã̉W

SOLAR is excited to announce that we have worked out a deal with Moosejaw to help our members save money on gear! In order to get the Moosejaw discount you need to do two things:

## - First, you must be a current, paid member of SOLAR.

- Second, when shopping at any of the Moosejaw locations, be sure to mention that you are a member of SOLAR and give the discount code, which is solar15.

What will you receive? You'll get a $15 \%$ discount on all full price, in-stock items (some exclusions apply) and $25 \%$ off all full price, in-stock Moosejaw Private Label items.

Be sure to thank the fine folks at Moosejaw for their support of SOLAR next time you're shopping there!

LAKE HOPE STATE PARK (OHIO)
September 2-5, 2011
HIKING, BIKING, CANOEING, KAYAKING, CAMPING \& SWIMMING,

- KID AND DOG FRIENDLY

Come join us! Hike 17 miles of trails, or trek the 26 mi. backpack trail in Zaleski State Forest. We can also hike the nearby Moonville Rail Trail. For all you mountain bikers, Lake Hope's 23 -mile single-track bike trail was chosen as Ohio's top mountain bike trail by readers of "Mountain Bike Magazine".

A natural paradise, 2,983-acre Lake Hope State Park lies entirely within the 26,824-acre Zaleski State Forest in the valley of Big Sandy Run; it is a rugged, heavily forested region traversed by steep gorges and narrow ridges.

120-acre Lake Hope offers a sand beach and laid-back boating which is limited to non-motorized boats and boats w/electric motors only. Boat rental is available (kayak, canoe, row boat) \& launch ramp provides easy lake access. If you enjoy fishing, you can fish from shore.

We will spend 3 nights camping, and exploring. Saturday night will be a traditional sOLAR potluck dinner. We will be camping in the Lake Ridge Group Camp, a secluded campsite with water available and pit toilets. Showers are available in the Class B Lake Hope Campground.

All this fun for only $\$ 20$.
If you need more information, feel free to contact me @ vem4@yahoo.com.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Vera
http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/Portals/2/parkmaps/lakehopeparkmap.pdf
http://www.lakehopestatepark.com/

## Introduction to Kayaking 2011

Class \& Dinner

## Sponsored by Heavner's Canoe \& Kayak Rental No Child Left Inside Program

Saturday July $16^{\text {th }}$ class (SOLD OUT) $\ldots$ Second Class August 13th at $4: 30$ to 7:30 Join Solar's Moon Light Paddlers after class

Where: Heavner's in Milford, Proud Lake State Park, Huron River.
Kayaking is one of the best ways to explore Michigan's waterways, relax and get some much needed exercise. It's also a great way to spend time with friends and family.

Introduction to Kayaking is a complete 3 hours class geared toward the person who has never kayaked, and the person who has kayak many time but has never had a formal lesson. The class is taught by Matt Dalton, long time Solar Club member and former AKC Kayak Instructor. The class is taught at Heavner's Canoe and Kayak in Milford, on the beautiful and safe Huron River, inside Proud Lake State Park.

You will be introduced to the correct way to paddle a kayak efficiently and fast, with the focus on safety and fun. Basic paddling skills will be taught and students will be introduced to a variety of kayaking equipment, clothing, boats and places to paddle. Student will learn skills the will allow them to paddle safety and stay inside your kayak.

Class size is limited to 10 adults to ensure personal attention for each student. After class we will have a pizza and salad dinner and a nice relaxing paddle down the Huron River. If you're thinking about trying kayaking this year or possibly purchasing a kayak someday, this is the class for you.

Heavner's Canoe \& Kayak Rental is committed to promoting No Child Left Inside. Alan Heavner has a special offer for Solar Club members who sigh up for this class. Each student is encouraged to bring one child (ages 10 to 17). The child's class and dinner are absolutely FREE!!! Alan Heavner wants kids outside enjoying the outdoors.

You will learn more about Michigan's and Heavner's No Child Left Inside movement before the class. So please bring a child, even if you have to borrow one. Your son, daughter, niece, nephew or neighbor is welcome to join you. The child is FREE.
Cost of the class and dinner is $\$ 40.00$ for the adults. Sign up for the August $13^{\text {th }}$ class before August $10^{\text {th }}$ by calling Matt Dalton 248-760-3792, or email him at mdalton@ameritech.net

I look forward to seeing you and your young guest out on the water!

## Solar 2011 Hike and Paddle



We will meet at Seaton Creek campground $8 / 5$ Friday night camp for the night then drive down to Red Bridge $8 / 6$ Saturday morning. We will park there and hike up the Manistee River trail to our camp at Seaton Creek and camp for the night.

Sunday morning $8 / 7$ we will break camp and hike down to the river and load into canoe or kayaks that will be delivered by Pine river canoe livery. Once loaded we will paddle downstream to Red Bridge approximately 3 hours to our cars and head for home.

Cost: 45.00 per canoe (share cost with a partner) or 45.00 per kayak

$$
15.00 \text { per night } x 2 \text { for camp site. }
$$

If you have a way to transport your own personal canoe or kayak you can certainly do that but we need enough people 12-16 to rent to make it cost effective. I would prefer to keep the group at 20 or under.


## Kayak \& Canoe Builder's Meet at Heavner's July 16

Hello kayak builders, paddlers, lurkers, and everybody else!
In the past few years, local people, including many SOLARites, have built about 60 kayaks, some canoes and other craft. A bunch of us are getting together at Heavner's Canoe in Milford, to show off our boats, talk about them, and maybe even paddle them around a bit. Heavner's is on the Huron River and is suitable for paddlers of all abilities.

If you are interested in building, come meet us and look at our boats. If you just want to do something different and meet more people, come meet us!

Ideally, bring home grown boats/paddles/gear. We are not too picky. Any kayak, canoe, or other craft is welcome. The important thing is to show up, meet others, and have a good time. I'm hoping to make this a BIG event, including inviting the media-- so come out, show off your handiwork, and spread the word.

At 7pm, another event is happening to continue the fun. Heavner's and SOLAR have run a "Moonlight Canoe Paddle" for several years. This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. We will start with pizza at about 7pm, and then paddle off into the setting sun at about $8: 15$. We'll return by paddling back into the moonrise, maybe after stopping in Milford for ice cream. Remember to dress for the weather, including a headlamp or flashlight. When we return to the canoe rental, a bonfire will be awaiting us. Onsite camping is available, too!

What does all this cost? (A Michigan State Park Passport is needed. Day passes are available on site.)

| Show up, talk about kayaks, paddle... | Nada, nothing. | Of course, if you need a canoe or |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pizza and bonfire... | $\$ 15 /$ person | kayak, you can rent one from |

Bonfire only \$5/person
(pay at the rental desk when you get there if getting pizza)
kayak, you can rent one from Heavner's

When: 3pm July 16
Who: All are welcome. Child and dog friendly. (if the child or dog is friendly ©)
Where: Heavner Canoe Rental, 2775 Garden Road, Milford, Michigan 48381
If joining us dinner, please Preregister by calling Heavner Canoe Rental at: (248) 685-2379. Please call in your reservation AT LEAST 24 hours before the event if you want pizza! If not wanting pizza, no need to call - just show up and have fun.

For more information, please contact Chuck Smith at cbryansmit@gmail.com


## GEAR SWAP

By Glenn Schultz

I have lots of gear
Perhaps used more than once
I love to upgrade
When given the chance
I own a few tents
A number of packs
Two or three stoves
And several sleeping bags
Yes, I love to use
New equipment and gadgets Though I am not that old I recall using canvas

Gear swaps are enjoyable I can divest of some stuff And buy more for later "Shopping can be tough"

So join in the fun Let go of some items That is, if you can part with Or from storage...find them.


Perch Fishing Lake St Clair Saturday July 9.


Who wants to (try to) catch some yummy perch?
Lake St Clair has excellent fishing opportunities, and I need an excuse to use my boat. I have a $24^{\prime}$ powerboat that works great for fishing. We need at least 2 participants to make this work, and a maximum of 5.

We will meet at my house $2: 30 \mathrm{pm}$, July 9 and plan to be back after dark. We'll leave my house at 2:45, and car pool to the boat ramp which is only a few minutes away. The boat will leave the dock at $3: 15 \mathrm{pm}$, or as soon as the people there are ready.

You need to bring:
Fishing rod \& reel
A sense of humor
Good luck (please share!)
Clothes appropriate for the weather. Remember it will be cooler on the water.
Protection from the sun (It can be intense on the water)
Michigan fishing license. Annual and daily licenses are available. (I will check that you have one).
Food, water, etc.
Please do not bring:
Alcohol
Potato chips (they make an incredible mess on a boat)


This is open to SOLAR members and their family members 14 years and older.
Cost is $\mathbf{\$ 2 5}$ per person, which covers boat gas, hooks \& sinkers, and minnows. I'll plan on about $1 \frac{1}{2}$ dozen minnows per person. As always, payment secures a spot.

The fine print:
If I cancel or postpone the trip before the boat leaves the dock due to weather or whatever, we can refund your money. Captain's call. If you choose not to go, we still have your money ;-)

Unexpected things can and do happen on the water.
I will ask if you can swim 100 yards. If you don't think you can, you will need to wear a PFD for the duration of the trip.

The boat has a porta pottie, and the door to the head is made of canvas. Only things your body has processed or the toilet paper onboard the boat can go in the head or BAD things happen.

For more information, contact Chuck Smith, cbryansmit@gmail.com

SOLAR JULY 2011 CALENDAR
www.SolarOutdoors.org

| SOLAR MEETING AND PROGRAM DATES |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $7 / 5$ | Tues | Monthly Meeting 7:30pm | Colony Hall | Chuck Smith | SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org |
|  |  | Annual Picnic and Gear Swap | Colony Hall |  | SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org |
| 8/2 | Tues | Monthly Meeting 7:30pm | Colony Hall | Chuck Smith | SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org |
|  |  | TBD | Colony Hall |  | SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org |
| SOLAR RAY DEADLINES |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7/14 | Thurs | August SOLAR Ray Deadline |  | Sheila Smith | SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org |
| 8/18 | Thurs | September SOLAR Ray Deadline |  | Sheila Smith | SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org |
| ACTIVITIES |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7/9 | Sat | Perch Fishing on Lake St Clair | Lake St Clair | Chuck Smith | cbryansmit@gmail.com |
| 7/16 | Sat | Moonlight Canoeing | Proud Lake Rec Area | Margaret Martin | mpluscat@yahoo.com |
| 7/16 | Sat | Kayak Builder's Meet | Proud Lake Rec Area | Chuck Smith | cbryansmit@gmail.com |
| 7/16-17 | Wknd | Bike, Balloons, Pool, Canoe Weekend | Jackson, MI | Heidi Tietjen | h_tietjen@yahoo.com |
| 8/5-7 | Wknd | Manistee River Hike and Paddle | Manistee River | Jim Coe | jimc27k@gmail.com |
| 8/13 | Sat | Moonlight Canoeing | Proud Lake Rec Area | Margaret Martin | mpluscat@yahoo.com |
| 8/27 | Sat | Volunteer for Therapeutic Recreation Program Canoe Trip | Proud Lake Rec Area | Margaret Martin | mpluscat@yahoo.com |
| 9/10 | Sat | Moonlight Canoeing | Proud Lake Rec Area | Margaret Martin | mpluscat@yahoo.com |
| 9/30-10/1 | Wknd | Camping at Metamora | Lapeer County, MI | Margaret Martin | mpluscat@yahoo.com |
| CLASSES |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7/16 | Sat | Intro to Kayaking (Bring a Kid for Free) | Proud Lake Rec Area | Matt Dalton | mdalton@ameritech.net |
| 8/13 | Sat | Intro to Kayaking (Bring a Kid for Free) | Proud Lake Rec Area | Matt Dalton | mdalton@ameritech.net |
| $\begin{gathered} \hline 8 / 18,25, \\ 9 / 8,10, \\ 15, \\ 23-25, \\ 10 / 7-9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Multi | Intro to Backpacking | TBD | Carol McCririe | cmccririe@sbcglobal.net |

If you would like to plan/lead an activity for SOLAR, contact our Activities Chairperson, Heidi Tietjen at SolarActivities@SolarOutdoors.org.
If you would like to teach or suggest a class for SOLAR, contact our Education Chairperson, Kevin Cotter 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

## How Can I Become A Member of Meetup?

Having trouble finding SOLAR-Outdoors on Meetup? Want to become one of the growing numbers of SOLAR members joining Meetup? Visit http://www.meetup.com/SOLAR-Outdoors/

If you aren't a member of Meetup in general, you'll need to create an account before you can apply for membership of the SOLAR-Outdoors group. Once you apply for membership to the SOLAR-Outdoors group, Mary Price (our Membership Chair) will confirm that you are a paid member of SOLAR and approve your membership in our Meetup group. Please be sure to include your first and last name when you apply to the group, so she knows exactly who you are.

## Please Note: All SOLAR Programs take place at Colony Hall immediately following the monthly SOLAR business meeting.

WHAT IS SOLAR?
SOLAR is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization with 400-plus 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, tranquil forests, scenic shorelines, and the experiences to be found there. Lifetime memberships are available for $\$ 175$ (single) and $\$ 250$ (family).
 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 Jennifer Tislerics at SOLARmembership@solaroutdoors.org.

SヨNITヨaIn NOISSIWgns 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 Sheila Smith at SOLARrayeditor@solaroutdoors.org.

> | OFFICERS |  | Activities: Heidi Tietjen |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Historian: Chip Kleinbrook } \\ & \text { President: Chuck Smith }\end{aligned} \begin{aligned} & \text { Bylaws: Tim Davis }\end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Membership: Jennifer Tislerics } \\ & \text { Vice President: Laura Buhl } \\ & \text { Secretary: Ati Tislerics }\end{aligned} \begin{array}{ll}\text { Education: Kevin Cotter } & \text { Programs: (vacant) } \\ \text { Public Relations: Jennifer Hill } & \text { Equipment: Glen Newa } \\ \text { Treasurer: Paul Williford } & \text { Ray Editor: Sheila Smith } \\ & \text { Webmaster: Bob Innes }\end{array}$ STEERING COMMITTEE 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 Chuck Smith at SolarPresident@solaroutdoors.org. Committee meeting, please contact Chuck Smith at SolarPresident@solaroutdoors.org.

Winnie Chrzanowski, Karen DeCoster, Jennifer Hill, Ken Lemieux, Helen Peters, Janet Schester, Pamela Schmelzer-Anzicek, Elizabeth Shaw, Ati Tislerics and Jennifer Tislerics. MORE INFORMATION

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

## SOLAR

33228 W. 12 Mile Road


[^0]:    SOLAR WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS
    Holly Burgess , Christine Pawyl (GOOD AS NEW), Michael Regenold , Robert Wright, Deborah Zollner

    NEWLY UPGRADED TO LIFETIME: Todd Alexander

