

## A PAGE FROM OUR PAST: JUNE 1995

BY BILL MORSE, SOLAR HISTORIAN

*Steering Committee members at the time included Steve Gardner (President), Tom Dunn (Vice President), Mike Banks (Secretary), Mike Felix (Equipment) and Cindy Harrison-Felix (Ray Editor).*

*I experienced a "north of the border" feel as I read the Ray for that month. Three events involved travel to Canada. Here are excerpts from the June 1995 Ray:*

**Wilderness Canoe Class:** Back by popular demand, it's the SOLAR Wilderness Canoe Class. This class will cover topics needed for an extended trip, including paddling and portage techniques, canoe loading, portage knot-craft, specialized equipment, emergency repair and a host of other topics to make your trip up the river a success.

Classes will be held on Wednesdays, May 31, June 7, 21, and 28 starting at 6:30 PM...There

*Continued on next page*

## Heavner Canoe Rental 60th Anniversary

*Maureen DeFrance*

It was a warm and welcoming celebration. Al Heavner and his nearly 97-year-old mother were the guests of honor. His mom knew about it, as she is wheelchair-bound and someone had to transport her. It was a complete surprise for Al, and he was deeply touched. There were stories galore - including one I had never heard. Apparently, Heavner's was started in 1953 (Al was 4 years old) with just 2 cloth-sided canoes. Both were picked up at Belle Isle and sold to them used. One had been used for target practice! As Al's mom said, "So we just recovered the canvas and started the business!" Lots of laughter, some tears (but happy tears), and lots and lots of memories shared. It brought to the forefront just how much Al has done for the surrounding community. He is involved in Heavner's, of course, but is also involved with No Child Left Inside, and helping handicapped children by getting them exposed to the outdoors as well.

*Continued on next page*

## In this issue:

Upcoming Events	3 - 7
Calendar	8
Upcoming Programs	9

## WELCOME TO THIS NEW SOLAR MEMBER!

Tamara Wrone

## NEW, JOINED AS LIFETIME:

Karla Halvangis • Steven Hunt

## UPGRADED TO LIFETIME:

Judy Bennett • Karen Stauble  
Michael Schick & Tammy Beesley-Schick

## A PAGE FROM OUR PAST *continued from previous page*

are also two practicals associated with the class. The first will be Saturday, June 10 at Island Lake Recreation Area. The second will be an extended weekend, July 1-4, to Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario.

**5th Annual Fossil Hunt at Arkona:** Join us Sunday, July 16 for this unique outing for your family or yourself. See beautiful woods, exciting waterfalls, walk down a fossil stream and swim in the Huron River in Arkona, Ontario (about 2 hours from Royal Oak). Jim Gilfix has sponsored this trip the past four years and everyone always has tons of fun; it's a day to remember! We will tour their museum, share a pot-luck lunch (about 1:30), then go for a hike which begins under their 35 foot waterfall, down the stream to the fossil fields. This is a FREE trip and open to all.

**A Day on Pelee Island:** Join the SOLAR club as we head off to the southernmost point in all of Canada, Pelee Island.

Plan to arrive in Leamington...at 8:30 AM on June 3 to board the ferry to the island. This is the ONLY ferry, so don't be late! Cost of the boat ride is \$10 round trip plus \$5 for a bike or \$21 for a car, neither of which are needed.

Once on the island we will be taking a tour of one of Ontario's most picturesque wineries, attend a wine seminar, and a tasting of 5 wines (\$6). Also plan on about \$7 for lunch.

We will be done at the winery around 2 PM and the ferry back is at 4 PM, so we can walk to the petting zoo, playground, trading post, pheasant farm, nature reserve (2 miles), the beach (3.5 miles) or the lighthouse (8.5 miles, you may want to rent a bike for this).

*I've enjoyed learning some of our history and sharing it with you during the past year. I hope it's also been fun for you!*

## HEAVNER 60TH ANNIVERSARY *continued from previous page*

When we introduced ourselves, I put in a plug for SOLAR, of course. I added how Al and SOLAR have had a close relationship for many years. I mentioned Heavner's involvement with paddling classes/seminars, how Matt Dalton helped with leading classes on paddling, and of course the moonlight paddles (I'm afraid that I forgot to mention Margaret Martin's name in regards to the moonlight paddles - oops).





# Summer Fun at Nordhouse Dunes

Fourth of July Weekend  
July 3-7

Organized by Cindy Taylor,  
[outdoorswoman@gmail.com](mailto:outdoorswoman@gmail.com)  
and Jim Coe, [jimc27k@gmail.com](mailto:jimc27k@gmail.com)

**Michigan summer at its best! Primitive camping, hiking, swimming, bicycling, exploring, sunset viewing, sun-bathing, shade-lolling — you choose how much adventure or pure relaxation you want!**

Kid and dogs friendly (both must be well-behaved). Dogs must be leashed, picked up after and are prohibited from the swimming beach. Group sites are set up for non-electric tent camping with pit toilets. About a 4-hour drive from Southfield, north of Ludington and south of Manistee.

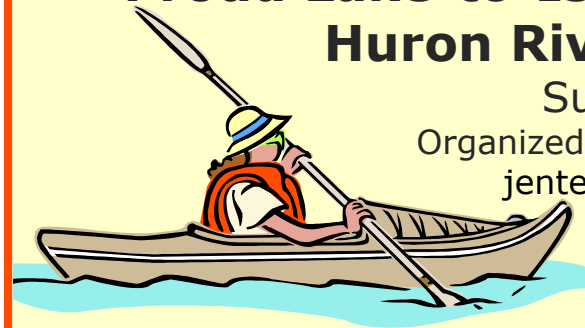
Hike the trails in the wilderness area or along the dunes all the way to Ludington State Park. Mountain bike on forest roads or on trails at Big M/Udell. Visit nearby Manistee for the Forest Festival or Ludington for the shops, elk farm, or the Sandcastle Museum. Fireworks take place at several nearby towns. Feel free to organize an add-on activity such as a paddle trip on the Pere Marquette River. We will take a couple hours to pick up plastic and trash along the beach on Saturday morning.

**\$25/adult; \$15/child**

## Proud Lake-to-Island Lake Huron River Paddle

Sunday, June 9

Organized by Jeff Enterkin  
[jente69690@aol.com](mailto:jente69690@aol.com)



We will start off paddling from Heavner Canoe Rental at Proud Lake State Recreation Area and paddle down the Huron River to Kent Lake in Island Lake State Recreation Area. This trip will take about 6 ½ hours to paddle. There is an alternate take out point at the Shore Fishing Parking lot in Kensington Metropark at about the 4-hour mark.

**You need to reserve and pay for your own kayak or canoe or transport for your own boat directly with Heavner, (248) 685-2379. Tell them you are with the SOLAR/Jeff Enterkin paddle on June 9. Let them know your out take-out point.**

The cost is \$40 per canoe, \$35 per kayak, and \$10 for transportation of your own boat back to Proud Lake. Children under 12 are half price; no charge for kids under 6 years old.

Things you will need to bring:

- Dress for the Weather
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Food and Drink: we'll be eating somewhere on the river
- Maybe a nice soft cushion to sit on
- Super Soakers or other toys are ok if you only shoot people who don't mind!

**After you have reserved your boat, sign up on Meetup or contact me directly to let me know you are coming. Guests welcome; you do not need to be a SOLAR member to join us.**

Heavner Canoe Rental is located at 2775 Garden Rd., Milford; web site: <http://www.heavnercanoe.com>.

# Moonlight Paddles 2013



Organized by Margaret Martin, [mpluscat@yahoo.com](mailto:mpluscat@yahoo.com)

June 22 - 7:30 pm    August 24 - 7:15 pm

July 20 - 8:00 pm    September 21 - 6:30 pm

October 19 - 5:45 pm

Summer Solstice (6/22) Extras: Handmade kayaks will be on display starting at 4:30 pm. For the June trip ONLY we will be shuttled to the Proud Lake Campground and paddle only into the sunset. Bring a bag dinner. Dessert will be provided during the break at the dam.

This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. Paddle a canoe or a kayak into the setting sun. Walk into Milford for dinner or dessert before paddling back in the moonlight. When you return to the canoe rental, a bonfire will be awaiting you. No partner necessary, all skill levels welcome. Dress for the weather, including headlamps and water bottles.

Boats launch from Heavner Canoe Rentals, 2775 Garden Rd, Milford, MI. Arrive 15-30 minutes early to complete paperwork, pay, and pick out your paddle.

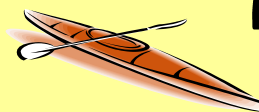
\$25/person, includes kayak or canoe rental plus post-paddle bonfire. \$5 bonfire only. **Pre-register with Heavner at 248 685-2379.**



## Pre-Paddle Hikes at Proud Lake State Recreation Area

Led by Jeff Enterkin, [jente06969@aol.com](mailto:jente06969@aol.com)

Hikers meet at Heavner Canoe Rentals 2.5 hours before the Moonlight Paddle start time. We'll hike to the trails at PLSRA and be back in time join the Moonlight Paddle. Non-paddlers welcome! **June hike leader needed.**



## Learn to Paddle! June 22



### Kayak Class

5:00pm

Taught by Matt Dalton  
[mdalton@ameritech.net](mailto:mdalton@ameritech.net)

### Canoe Class

3:00-6:00 pm

Taught by Margaret Martin  
[mpluscat@yahoo.com](mailto:mpluscat@yahoo.com)

The basics of paddling a kayak or canoe will be practiced on dry land and in the water. You will learn how to safely get in and out of your boat. Water safety and gear will be discussed.

Classes are FREE to adults; children from the ages of 10-16 are free for the class *and* Moonlight Paddle with a paid adult.

**Kayakers: Email or call Matt Dalton, 248-760-3792, two days in advance to confirm you are coming. Space is limited.**



## Explore Peche Island by Kayak

**July 3, 10:00 am start**

Organized by Mike Hobig, mhobig@yahoo.com

**Grab your passport and load up your 'yak!**  
**We're heading across the river to explore the bays, canals and trails of Peche Island. Bring your kayak, PDF (mandatory), passport/enhanced drivers license, food, drink, camera, binoculars, sunscreen, sunglasses, change of clothes, kayak, and sense of adventure. Put in at Sand Point Park, 10300 Riverside Dr E, Tecumseh, ONT.**

## Mike Malon Memorial Tree Siting and Hike

**June 8, 10:00 am**

**Heritage Park**

**24725 Farmington Rd, Farmington Hills**

SOLAR members generously contributed to a memorial fund for longtime member, Mike Malon. We will be planting a tree in his honor at Heritage Park, a place Mike loved.

We will meet a park manager at the North Shelter to choose a location for a native red oak & a boulder with a plaque commemorating Mike. At a later date, we can have a dedication ceremony. On this trip, we'll find a good site for the tree, eat a picnic lunch, hike the park trails, and remember some good times with Mike.

Even if you didn't know Mike, please join us! The park is beautiful and SOLAR company is always good.

*Please note:* Dogs are not allowed in Heritage Park.

## White Mountains Backpacking Trip

**July 20-28**

Organized by Tom Simino, tsimino@yahoo.com

We will be hiking the Appalachian Trail in the southern stretch of the Mahousuc Range in Maine, starting just south of the infamous Mahousuc Notch, crossing the New Hampshire border to hike the "Presidentials" section of the White Mountains, and finishing up by going over Mt. Washington where the world-record fastest wind gust was recorded. This is one of the more difficult sections of the AT; hikers and their gear will need to be in excellent condition. We will average 10 miles per day, totaling about 61 miles for the week.

Anticipated costs included travel permits and hut fees, campsite or hotel fees en route, and (possibly) a shuttle. There will be training hikes and a mandatory shake-down trip.



**What begins  
at 7:00 pm?**

**The SOLAR  
Monthly Meeting,  
starting in June!**



# Algonquin Wilderness Canoe Trip

## July 13 - 21

Organized by Phil Crookshank, [Phil2425@yahoo.com](mailto:Phil2425@yahoo.com)

Algonquin Provincial Park – 100,000 square miles of designated paddling wilderness with diamond-sparkling water—is in Ontario, Canada, northeast of Toronto, about a six hour drive from Southfield. We will be paddling lake-to-lake, camping at designated camp spots, many on islands. Sightings of moose, ducks by the hundreds, loons calling, distant wolves howling. Splendid misty sunrises, sunsets reflecting on the water, with plenty of time at day's end for a leisurely swim, supper, and campfire stories.

This trip covers 2 travel days and 7 days of rugged wilderness paddling, 5-6 hours each day, canoeing many lakes that are connected by rivers and portage trails. There are portages—some short, a couple that about 2 kilometers—on all days but one. This trip is designed for intermediate level participants, with basic paddling skills, and backcountry camping experience. We will be renting Superlight Kevlar Canoes, which weigh around 45 lbs. You will need to be able to help carry a canoe plus your pack—or convince your paddling partner to do it! Trip organizer will assign partners so each team will be fairly balanced for skill and strength. It's a strenuous trip but do-able and very rewarding!

8 people maximum. Requirements: Solar membership, passport or enhanced driver's license, backpacking and canoeing experience.

Cost: \$325, includes canoe and paddle rental, safety kit, maps, lists, permits, camp fees, rentals of equipment, 2 camp breakfasts, gear list, and pre-trip meeting with detailed instructions of "How To." Meals going and coming and ride share costs (approx. \$60/person), are not included. Each participant will provide one dinner for the group. Deposits required: \$175 by June 6; last \$150 by July 2. Checks must be made out to: Philip Crookshank. Email/call for address.

Contact Phil for complete details of the trip, travel routes, expense breakdown, etc. Or call 248-797-2885 in evening for discussion and encouragement! He can e-mail you everything if you can't get to meetings.



## Paddle the Pine River ▪ June 7 - 9

Organized by James Huck, call or text at 248-670-4252.

Come for a fun and relaxing paddle trip on one of Michigan's best rivers. We'll camp on the river at Coolwater Campground ([www.coolwater.com](http://www.coolwater.com)) in Wellston.

# Paddle to the Symphony

Friday, June 21

Kensington Metropark  
Martindale Beach, Shelter S

Contact: Michael Dwyer  
travelandadventure@yahoo.com  
Event hotline: 248-760-0940

Have a fun evening on the water while enjoying the sounds of the Michigan Philharmonic!



Paddle across the 1/4 mile span to the amphitheater on the opposing shore. Return as the sun goes down and the music keeps you going.

Canoes and a limited number of kayaks available. Children welcome but there **MUST** be at least one adult per watercraft.

Per person options include Paddle plus Boxed Meal (\$35); Paddle only (\$25); Food Only/Your boat (\$15); Reception only (\$5). Metropark entrance pass not included. Pre-registration required; **sign up by June 13**. Mail-in registration form available at: <http://tinyurl.com/symphonypaddle>

4:00 pm Meet & Greet  
6:00 pm Official Reception  
6:30 pm Arrival deadline  
7:00 pm Required Canoe Safety Meeting  
7:30 pm Canoe Launch  
8:00 pm Concert Starts  
9:00 pm Canoes Paddle Back  
9:30 pm Canoes Return  
10:00 pm Goodnight

# Beginning Backpacking Class

August 22-September 26; Pictured Rocks Practical, October 4- 6  
Class Fee: \$110

One of the most popular classes offered by SOLAR members to SOLAR members, the Beginning Backpacking Class teaches about trip planning, equipment, food, and other topics to get you ready for the backcountry. The class gives you hands-on experience, fun times, and new friends.

This class is for people who a) have never backpacked and have always wanted to try it; b) need the class as a prerequisite for other classes; c) are new to the club and want to make friends and meet people; or d) want a refresher or just need an excuse to backpack.

Class sessions: Thursdays, August 22, September 5, 12, 19, and 26, at Royal Oak Senior Community Center, 6:00-9:00 pm.

Practical 1: Saturday, September 7, Maybury State Park, Northville.

Practical 2: Saturday-Sunday, September 21-22, Brighton Recreation Area.

Practical 3: Friday-Sunday, October 4-6, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

You will need to participate on a weekly basis and should plan on attending all practicals to get the most out of the class. To attend the final practical at Pictured Rocks, you **must** attend Practicals 1 and 2.

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

Class fee includes a textbook, a class handbook, camping fees for both practicals, and dinner at Practical 1. Sign up on Meetup or by the August 6 general meeting.

Lead Instructors: Carol McCririe, [cmccririe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmccririe@sbcglobal.net); Leslie Cordova [lesliegene@aol.com](mailto:lesliegene@aol.com); and Glenn Schultz, [gunghoglenn@yahoo.com](mailto:gunghoglenn@yahoo.com).



Click to get the details on Meetup.com!

## SOLAR JUNE 2013 CALENDAR

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

Click to email the organizer

### SOLAR MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

6/4	Tues	<a href="#">Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm</a>	Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen, Southfield, MI	Jennifer McWilliams	<a href="mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
		<a href="#">Program: A Walk around Lake Michigan</a>		Kirsten Cook	<a href="mailto:SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
6/25	Tues	<a href="#">Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm</a>	TBD	Jennifer McWilliams	<a href="mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
7/2	Tues	<a href="#">Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm</a>	Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen, Southfield, MI	Jennifer McWilliams	<a href="mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
		<a href="#">Annual Picnic and Gear Swap</a>		Kirsten Cook	<a href="mailto:SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
7/30		<a href="#">Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm</a>	TBD	Jennifer McWilliams	<a href="mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
8/6	Tues	<a href="#">Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm</a>	Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen, Southfield, MI	Jennifer McWilliams	<a href="mailto:SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPresident@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
		<a href="#">Introduction to Classes</a>		Kirsten Cook	<a href="mailto:SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarPrograms@SolarOutdoors.org</a>

### SOLAR RAY DEADLINES

6/13	Thur	July SOLAR Ray Deadline		Bruce Coppola	<a href="mailto:SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org">SolarRayEditor@SolarOutdoors.org</a>
------	------	-------------------------	--	---------------	--

### ACTIVITIES

6/4, 7/2, 8/6	Tues	Post-Meeting Gathering at Mr. Joe's	26077 W 12 Mile Rd, Southfield, MI		
6/1	Sat	<a href="#">National Trails Day Celebration and Demo</a>	Oakwoods Metropark, New Boston, MI	Bill Morse	<a href="mailto:billc095@yahoo.com">billc095@yahoo.com</a>
6/2-6/7	Multi	<a href="#">Great Smoky Mountains National Park Trip</a>	Gatlinburg, TN	Mary Dunn	<a href="mailto:mjd70bc@msn.com">mjd70bc@msn.com</a>
6/8	Sat	<a href="#">Mike Malon Memorial Tree Siting and Hike</a>	Heritage Park, Farmington Hills, MI	Chuck Smith	<a href="mailto:cbryansmit@gmail.com">cbryansmit@gmail.com</a>
6/7-9	Wknd	<a href="#">Pine River Canoe Trip</a>	Wellston, MI	James Huck	Text to 248-670-4252
6/9	Sun	<a href="#">Proud Lake to Island Lake Huron River Paddle</a>	Heavner Canoe Rental, Milford, MI	Jeff Enterkin	<a href="mailto:jente69690@aol.com">jente69690@aol.com</a>
6/21	Fri	<a href="#">Paddle to the Symphony</a>	Kensington Metropark, Milford, MI	Michael Dwyer	<a href="mailto:travelandadventure@yahoo.com">travelandadventure@yahoo.com</a>
6/22, 7/20, 8/24, 9/21, 10/19	Sat	<a href="#">Moonlight Paddles and Pre-Paddle Hikes</a>	Heavner Canoe Rental, Milford, MI	Margaret Martin	<a href="mailto:mpluscat@yahoo.com">mpluscat@yahoo.com</a>
6/22	Sat	<a href="#">Night on the Town: Party and a Play</a>	Northville, MI	Maureen DeFrance	<a href="mailto:moeazdream@gmail.com">moeazdream@gmail.com</a>
7/3	Wed	<a href="#">Explore Peche Island by Kayak</a>	Peche Island, Windsor, ONT	Mike Hobig	<a href="mailto:mhobig@ford.com">mhobig@ford.com</a>
7/3-7	Multi	<a href="#">Nordhouse Dunes Camping Trip</a>	Mason County, MI	Cindy Taylor	<a href="mailto:outdoorswoman@gmail.com">outdoorswoman@gmail.com</a>
7/13-21	Multi	<a href="#">Wilderness Canoe Trip</a>	Algonquin Provincial Park, ONT	Phil Crookshank	<a href="mailto:phil2425@yahoo.com">phil2425@yahoo.com</a>
7/20-28	Multi	<a href="#">White Mountains Backpacking Trip</a>	New Hampshire, Maine	Tom Simino	<a href="mailto:tsimino@yahoo.com">tsimino@yahoo.com</a>
9/21-28	Multi	<a href="#">Adirondack Fall Hiking Trip</a>	Lake Placid, NY	Janet Schester	<a href="mailto:j40makayla@gmail.com">j40makayla@gmail.com</a>

### CLASSES

6/22	Sat	<a href="#">Kayaking Class</a>	Heavner Canoe Rental, Milford, MI	Matt Dalton	<a href="mailto:mdalton@ameritech.net">mdalton@ameritech.net</a>
6/22	Sat	<a href="#">Canoeing Class</a>	Heavner Canoe Rental, Milford, MI	Margaret Martin	<a href="mailto:mpluscat@yahoo.com">mpluscat@yahoo.com</a>
8/22, 9/5, 9/7, 9/12, 9/19, 9/20-22, 9/26, 10/4-6	Thur, Sat, Wknd	<a href="#">Basic Backpacking</a>	Royal Oak Community Center, Maybury State Park, Brighton State Rec Area, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	Carol McCrie, Glenn Schultz, Leslie Cordova	<a href="mailto:cmccrie@sbcglobal.net">cmccrie@sbcglobal.net</a>

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



# Upcoming SOLAR Programs

SOLAR Programs follow the business meeting at monthly meetings at Colony Hall. If you have an idea for a program, share it with our Programs Chair, at [solarprograms@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:solarprograms@solaroutdoors.org).

**June 4: A Walk around Lake Michigan** In 2009, Loreen Nieuwenhuis walked completely around Lake Michigan, the world's fifth-largest lake. The mostly-solo walk was a discovery of self and place. The resulting book, *A Thousand-Mile Walk on the Beach*, explores both the geography of the lake and the measure of a person. Books for sale for \$15.

**July 2: Annual Picnic and Gear Swap** Clean out that garage, attic, or gear room and give someone else a chance to put your unneeded outdoor gear to use. Sell, swap, or donate. We'll hold the picnic on the Colony Hall lawn. SOLAR will provide the main dish. Members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to pass.

**August 6: Fall and Winter Classes:** Join us for an overview of the fall and winter classes offered by SOLAR members. Thinking of taking Enjoying Michigan Winters? here's your opportunity to get all your questions answered!

## Reminder:

SOLAR's membership meetings will start

**at 7:00pm**

beginning with the  
June 4th meeting.



**SOLAR**

33228 W. 12 Mile Road

Box 220

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

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