

## SOLAR Welcomed Double World Record Hiker Heather “Anish” Anderson

By Rosemarie Attilio

Who hikes 2180+miles in 54 days? 126 people came to find out! SOLAR welcomed the fascinating, inspiring double world record hiker on April 12, 2016, Heather “Anish” Anderson.

Heather a.k.a. “Ghost”, recently set new records for the fastest fully unsupported thru-hikes of BOTH the Pacific Crest Trail and the Appalachian Trail! She's been featured in the Washington Post, Outside, Backpacker, Elle and many more publications.

Heather (Anish is her hiking name, derived from her First Nations Grandmothers' Anishinaabe heritage) shared her story of how she planned and executed the epic hike on the Appalachian trail.

She began in Maine. She commented that this is often the opposite way that thru-hikers complete the Appalachian trail. She described the variety of terrain, weather, flora and fauna she experienced along the route. The night of about 20 bears was particularly exciting. Heather is a fast power hiker, hiking often 40 or more miles per day on 4 or 5 hours of sleep per night. She hiked well into the evening with headlamps.

She met many interesting people on the trail including a group called the dirty mothers that were trail runners, and tourists that posed with her on selfies. She shared many interesting stories and encounters. She experienced grueling trail conditions, flooding, bugs, heat, and swollen rivers. Many of the trails were treacherous with rocks and roots.

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The audience was very curious about food and equipment. It was surprising to hear she did not carry any type of stove. 3 hours prior to eating she would pour water on her dehydrated backpacking food. She also ate Trailbutter, Navitas Naturals, Fuel100, and Salazon Chocolate. A gluten-free pizza at one of the towns was a trip highlight.

Her trail shoes (Altra Lone Peak) lasted about 500 miles. She shipped her own replacement shoes and supplies at various towns along the trail which required her to be at various towns by certain days and times to be able to pick up her boxes. Her shelter was ZPaks Soloplex w/poles and 8x titanium stakes / Gossamer Gear Polycro Groundsheet.

She is a trainer and instructor. Many articles have been written about her. (See below for information) What an inspirational evening.

Articles about Heather:

<http://www.backpacker.com/trips/long-trails/pacific-crest-trail/a-ghost-among-us/>

<http://www.elle.com/life-love/a34380/heather-anderson/>



*Her motto: Dream Big, Be Courageous.  
Contact her at [AnishHikes@gmail.com](mailto:AnishHikes@gmail.com)  
[Facebook.com/TrainWithAnish](https://www.facebook.com/TrainWithAnish)  
[RunHikeLiveLove.blogspot.com](http://RunHikeLiveLove.blogspot.com)*



# Don't miss the **SOLAR Elections & Gear Swap** *Tues. April 26*

## 40 Years (and Counting!) of SOLAR Fun. Help keep SOLAR going for another 40 years

For 40 years SOLAR has been a club comprised of – and run by – volunteers who enjoy the outdoors, love to travel and have adventures. You can be part of that tradition and help shape SOLAR's future by running for one of the 14 positions on the Steering Committee (SC). No experience necessary, just a willingness to help out. Joining the SC is a great way to give back to SOLAR and make more friends! Elections will be held at the monthly club meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. All currently paid members are eligible to run and vote. We will also be setting up tables for our annual gear swap. Bring any item you wish to sell. Great deals!

### ***Positions:***

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Activities Chairperson
- Bylaws Chairperson
- Education Chairperson
- Equipment Chairperson
- Historian
- Membership Chairperson
- Programs Chairperson
- Public Relations Chairperson
- SOLAR Ray Editor
- Webmaster



You can read the formal descriptions of what each Steering Committee (SC) position is responsible for on the club's website:  
<http://solaroutdoors.org/About/Bylaws.aspx>.  
[www.solaroutdoors.org/About/SteeringCommittee/Biographies.aspx](http://www.solaroutdoors.org/About/SteeringCommittee/Biographies.aspx). To add your name to the ballot for the April 26 elections, please contact either Kirsten Groppuso ([solarprograms@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:solarprograms@solaroutdoors.org)) or Jennifer Tislerics ([solarpresident@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:solarpresident@solaroutdoors.org)).

# *Don't miss out* **SOLAR 40th Anniversary Camp Out**

## **SOLAR 40th Anniversary Weekend Camp Out and Dinner**

**June 10-12, 2016 at Proud Lake**

\$60 Per campsite for 2 nights. Each site is allowed up to 6 people, 2 tents and 2 cars. State Recreation Passport is required.- **Update: The reserved camp sites are currently sold out, but there are people with sites already reserved that are willing to share their site.** Join SOLAR at our next meeting to discuss if you want to share a site. **Also, let us know if you want to reserve a full site at the next meeting, as we can check if another site can be added.**

Campsites will be assigned to accommodate special needs (kids, pets, etc.) and RVs.

Saturday, June 11, catered picnic dinner for campers and day visitors.

You must pre-register for the dinner. Adults and children 13+ \$10, Children 12 and under are free.

Make and pay for your dinner reservation at the monthly meeting or on Meetup: <http://meetu.ps/2RTmVC>

Note: This event takes the place of the SOLAR summer picnic.

If you have any questions please contact Karen Haroutunian at [solarhistorian@solaroutdoors.org](mailto:solarhistorian@solaroutdoors.org).

*No refunds will be given but you can sell your campsite.*

## *40th Anniversary Scheduled Events*

### **FRIDAY EVENING SCHEDULE:**

5:30 – 8:00 High Ropes Course\* (extra cost)

6:30 – 9:00 Finger food/appetizers/desserts potluck

6:30 - ? Campfire

8:00 – 10:00 Paddle

### **SATURDAY SCHEDULE:**

#### **MORNING**

8:30 – 9:30 Buffalo Run

9:00 Photo Scavenger hunt begins

10:30 – 1:30 Bicycle Ride (~30 miles)

#### **AFTERNOON/EVENING**

2:00 – 4:00 Geocaching

4:00 – 4:30 Photo Scavenger Hunt Tally

4:00 – 5:00 Fun with balloons, for kids of all ages

4:30 Smaller group photos (former SC members)

5:00 SOLAR Group photo

5:30 **Catered BBQ Dinner served** \*(pay in advance)

7:00 – 9:00 40th Anniversary Program

9:00 – 10:00 Campfire and s'mores

9:30 Night hike

10:00 Visitors leave/Quiet time starts

### **SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:**

8:30 – 9:30 Pancake breakfast

10:00 Post-breakfast hike

11:00 Clean up and tear down

# 40th Anniversary Camp Out Event Descriptions

## High Ropes Course Adventure Friday June 9, 2016 5 pm

The Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center has a great high ropes course with a zip line, climbing tower, and low rope options. Climb the 35 foot high cargo net to access the operations deck of the course. Participants can then choose from several routes to access 10 different challenges that spread throughout the course. To descend they "zipline" down to their teammates. \$35 per person. Limited to 15. Pre-registration required.

## Friday Night Paddle, June 9, 7:45 meet, 8:00 pm launch – Sunset Paddle on Proud Lake, & Canoe/Kayak Rental Info

We will paddle from the boat launch by the campground through the river channel to Proud Lake watching for wildlife and then viewing the sunset over the trees. We'll enjoy the moonlight on the lake before heading back to camp. Pre-registration and pre-payment with Heavner Canoe and Kayak Rental is required unless you are bringing your own boat. You can also rent from Heavner's on Garden Rd. on the day of the paddle but will need to launch from and return your boat there. Friday night is the only pre-organized paddle but feel free to post a paddle on the white board.

## HEAVNER'S CANOE AND KAYAK RENTAL

(248.685.2379 or 248.561.8274)

Heavner's is making special arrangements for SOLAR members for a variety of canoe/kayak rental packages for the weekend. Be sure to mention you are with SOLAR when you make your reservation. Friday night paddle only: \$25 canoe/ \$35 kayak (Canoe can accommodate three adults or up to two adults and two children) Friday night and all day Saturday: \$50 canoe/\$60 kayak Friday night to 5:00 pm Sunday: \$75 canoe/85 kayak Sunday only: \$25

## Bicycle Ride – 10 am Saturday, June 10, 2016

We'll use multi-use trails, side paths, and bike lanes for a very moderately paced 30-ish mile ride from the campground. We'll have maps available for those who want to meet at a trailhead so they can stay on paved trails. Figure about 3 hours for the ride, including stops. Don't forget to bring a lunch.

## Digital Photography Scavenger Hunt, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Add a twist to your hike or other activities by participating in the digital photo scavenger hunt. Simply pick up the instructions and list of items to photograph on Saturday morning and use your smart phone or digital camera to document the items you find.

Meet in the afternoon to review your photos against the list to see how you did. Prizes for kids only, but participation will be open to all ages.

## THE BUFFALO RUN RIDES AGAIN! Sat., June 11, 2016 8 am.

In the early days of SOLAR's rock-climbing at Rattlesnake, Bill Halvangis and I decided (while imbibing our favorite beverages around the campfire) that a run the next morning would shake out the cobwebs. So shortly after sunrise we set out on the trail (mostly grumbling and moaning) to round a corner and find the sun shining on a field of bushes laced with sparkling dew-kissed spider webs, some of which held big black spiders. Well that caused a change in our course and led us to a field full of huge buffalo peacefully grazing.

When we got back to camp and told our tale, everyone was ready to mount up the next morning and join in. Thus the Buffalo Run was invented and is now back at the 40th anniversary.

Join 8-9 am Saturday morning for a 2-mile run with Peg and Bill

# 40th Anniversary Camp Out Event Descriptions

## INTRO TO GEOCACHING Saturday June 11, 2016 2:00-4:00pm By Leslie Cordova

Geocaching is a fun way to get out in the woods, and around town, to find hidden trinkets. There are millions of geocaches hidden around the world. Geocaching is a family friendly activity everyone can do without a lot of expense. All that is required is to download an app on your smart phone.

For this 2-hour introduction, please have the geocaching app already downloaded, installed and a user ID established to save time. To download the app, simply search "geocaching free" on your smart phone. The app I use is green and is called "geocaching" (Groundspeak Inc).

A limited number of geocaches can be found using the free app. Once you have downloaded the app, there is an option to upgrade to a premium version for a minimal cost, which will allow you to view all available geocaches. Downloading the premium version is entirely up to you as we should be able to locate at least one geocache using the free version.

Don't have a smartphone? That's okay. Join us anyway as we can share phones.

We will meet at the campsite and then drive a short distance to begin our search. Come join us for the thrill of the hunt and let's see how many geocaches we can locate in 2 hours!





# Land Navigation Challenge! Find the Cache!

## 40th Anniversary Land Nav Challenge! Find the cache! Claim cool prizes! April edition.

### Rules:

1. The cache was extended through April.
2. You can search for the cache using map & compass, with a GPS receiver, or with GPS software on your smartphone. It's up to you!
3. When you find the cache, please only remove one item per group or person. Leave the other cool items for other SOLAR members to claim.
4. Sign the logbook in the cache container.
5. Take a picture of your adventure and share the photos on the SOLAR Facebook page if you'd like. Please don't take pictures that give away the location of the cache.

### Steps to find the cache:

1. Watch this video introducing the challenge:  
<https://youtu.be/HUd8fFTKQk0>
2. Watch this tutorial on how to generate your own topo map highlighting the location of the cache:  
<https://youtu.be/oT6CTaac0Hw> You will need a Mac or PC with a web browser and a printer.  
THE COORDINATES ARE: (Datum WGS84) 42.68299, -83.48622  
Hint: Depression, west side.
3. Use Caltopo to print a map showing the location of the hidden container.
4. Go find it!



# Banff Film Festival • Ann Arbor, MI *By Rosemarie Attilio*

On April 10, over 20 SOLARites attended an amazing adrenaline filled night viewing short films of adventure and peril at the Banff Film festival in Ann Arbor Michigan.

The Banff Film Festival was started in 1976 in Banff, Alberta. The Film festival is an international competition of the best short films and documentaries about extreme sports, mountain climbing, adventure, and the environment. Once the winners are crowned, the films travel on a world tour in over 20 countries, and over 300 cities.

The evening began with a dinner at Noodles restaurant. We walked over in a heavy rain, to a sold out event full of various outdoor organizations with tables set up in the lobby. There were photo props to look like you were scaling Everest, a Himalaya outfitter table that will set you up to trek in Nepal, mountaineering groups, adventure groups, Kicking Horse coffee, and best of all, the SOLAR table, manned by Jeff and Bill.

After perusing the tables and organizations, we headed to the balcony to see the award winning action films. I was at the edge of my seat for the extreme mountain biking film. A biker, racing on a knife edge cliff. Other films of night bikers with amazing lights and colors.

Some of the films were humorous, such as the film in which a group of young men decide to hike a mountain in Mexico in 55 hours and everything goes wrong. There was a commercial spoof of Nature RX, made to look like a medical prescription.

There was an inspiring moment of history on the Reel Rock 10, A Line across the sky, in which 2 climbers, Tommy Caldwell and Alex Honnold completed mountain climbing glory by successfully climbing the Fitz Traverse, a series of six peaks in Patagonia. In Feb 2014 they became the first mountain climbers to ever successfully climb all peaks in one trip, a five day event of ice, rock, snow, and exhaustion. They were good natured, and driven.

My favorite film was a tribute to Forest Woodward's father in "The Important Places. A touching thought provoking short film in which Forest finds a poem his father wrote for him when he was born. Forest found the poem as an adult, and it began a quest to reconnect his aging father with a rafting trip down the Colorado

river, an important place that his father had rafted many years earlier. The poem should make all of us reflect on our own important places...

## The Important Places

Child of mine  
come as you grow  
in youth you will learn the secret places  
the cave behind the waterfall  
the arms of the oak that hold you high  
the stars so near on a desert ledge  
the important places  
and as with age you choose your own way  
among the many faces of a busy world  
may you always remember the path that leads you back  
back to the important places.  
dad for Forest, 1986

Get your ticket to the Banff Film Festival early next year, as it is surely going to be another sell out crowd. In the meantime, find your important places. (And, send photos and stories to the RAY).





# SOLAR February program: Falconry with Michael Azzopardi

The program following last month's meeting was on falconry, the ancient practice of using birds of prey to hunt.

Michael Azzopardi of the Michigan Hawking Club brought in his amazing red tailed hawk and introduced us to the sport of hunting wild game in its natural state with a trained bird of prey (raptor).

Michael gave a very thorough program, explaining the knowledge, skill, and commitment that is involved in practicing the sport of Falconry. He shared how he trapped this young red tailed hawk, and all the legalities involved in keeping a hawk or falcon, including counting and keeping every feather that falls off this bird, until the bird's death, or release.

SOLAR learned of the extreme commitment involved in daily care, training, flying and exercising a bird of prey used in falconry. We learned about the equipment used to care and house the hawk, and how Michael keeps the bird trained to hunt and not fly off.

He shared these are never pets. These birds remain wild and when he has kept them for a certain period of time, he releases them back to the wild. He released this bird before, but then, had remorse and went back and got the bird back. In the wild red tailed hawks have a very high mortality rate so keeping this bird as a falconer's bird, is actually beneficial in extending the bird's average life span, and quality of life.

The audience asked many questions, and were quite enthralled at seeing the hawk up close. We actually had a visitor that saw on meetup that we were having this program, so she came to see the club, and brought her young son and friend to the event. This was a fascinating experience. It brought new awareness to the complexity and dedication of falconers to their bird companions.



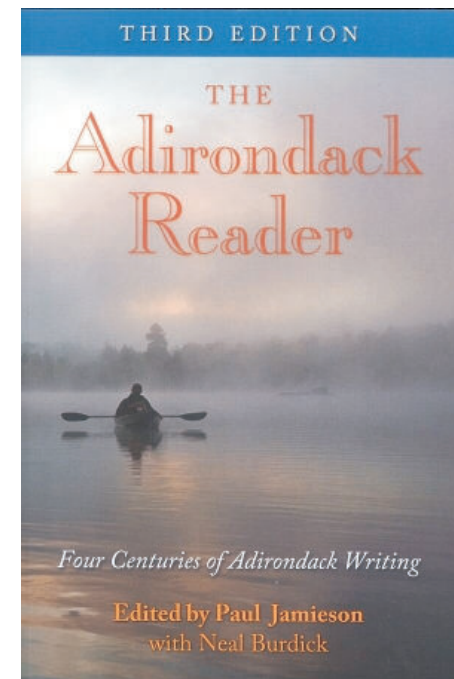
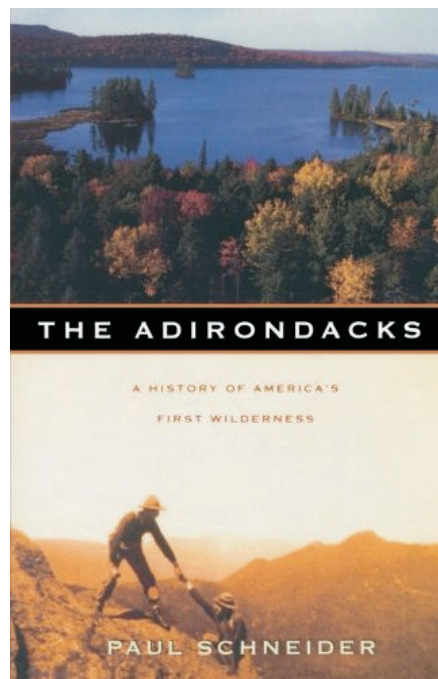
## Beyond the Trails: The History and Lore of the Adirondacks *By Bruce Coppola*

When SOLAR members hike the trails, paddle the waters, and tour the towns and hamlets within the Adirondack State Park, they traverse a landscape that has been trod for over four centuries of recorded history by explorers and exploiters, warriors and artists, Presidents and philosophers, Gilded Age robber barons, conservationists, scientists, and eco-visionaries. The Adirondacks are not only one of America's great natural areas; they hold a prominent place in American history and literature. Emerging American conceptions of wilderness often formed there first: from the feared haunt of heathen savages if not the Devil himself; to a place to be hunted, trapped, exploited and tamed; then a bucolic and romantic retreat for the harried urbanite, and the current ecological view as refuges for endangered species and more-or-less pristine remnants of America before European contact.

Two books offer deeply complimentary accounts of this rich history. *The Adirondacks: A History of America's First Wilderness* by Paul Schneider, and *The Adirondack Reader: Four Centuries of Adirondack Writing*, edited by Paul Jamieson. If you are one who finds 'history' dry, Schneider has engagingly emphasized the 'story' of the dramas played out in these mountains, with deft and vivid portraits of the characters who played their parts in this American drama. And what characters! My favorite may be Lord William Johnson, who arrived in the American colonies as a poor lad from England, made a fortune in the fur business, and built a manor in the wilderness along the Sacandaga River (now lake). He lived partly as a feudal lord and partly as an adopted member of the Mohawk tribe. Fluent in their language, he was as comfortable in a breechcloth as in his powdered wig and silk knickers. He was also a party animal and ladies' man; all of this while serving as colonial Governor Clinton's head of Indian affairs. There is John Herreshoff, one of

many whose dreams of earning great wealth or even just making a living in the rugged country and harsh climate of the Adirondacks came to grief. After doggedly mining for iron and exhausting his and much of his relatives' fortunes, he committed suicide under circumstances shrouded in local legends. One piquant version has him ordering his men to bury him alive at the bottom of one of his mines. An overarching theme of *The Adirondacks* is that the defeat of so many human schemes to exploit the Adirondacks may have been its salvation. Schneider employs an especially effective device by using modern stories and vignettes of modern Adirondack residents such as trappers, loggers, ecologists, and others to introduce and illustrate analogous historical periods and themes.

*Continued on page 11*



# Beyond the Trails: The History and Lore of the Adirondacks *By Bruce Coppola*

*Continued from page 10*

In the Adirondack Reader, we meet those same characters in their own words, and many others both historical and fictional. Father (now Saint) Issac Jogues, a French Jesuit who sought to convert the notably unappreciative heathen natives of New France relates his capture and torture at their hands. James Fenimore Cooper in his Leatherstocking Tales created Natty Bumppo, aka Leatherstocking, portrayed here in an excerpt from *Last of the Mohicans*, in a life-and-death canoe pursuit on an Adirondack lake by hostile French and Indians. Bumppo, thoroughly at home in the wilderness, nobly heroic, and untainted by the corrupting influences of civilization, became the template for the classic Adirondack guide of the mid- and late 1800s. Verplanck Colvin, whose initial surveys and advocacy resulted in the foundation of the Park describes in near-rapturous prose the his discovery of the lake on Mt. Marcy he took to be the source of the Hudson, which he named Lake Tear-Of-The Clouds. Colvin, sadly, ended his days as a derelict "muttering in the streets of Albany. Abolitionist John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, tried to establish a farming community of African American freemen and slaves just a few miles from the Loj he called "Timbuctoo". "How We Me John Brown" is a moving posthumous account by the Abolitionist lawyer Richard Henry Dana, Jr. of his chance meeting with the then little-known Brown and his family, when Dana and his guide and companions staggered out of the woods after a hike through Indian Pass\*. We hear from Rev. Charles Murray, whose fulsome accounts of the beauty of the Adirondacks set off the first wave of urban tourists seeking respite from the increasingly crowded cities of the East Coast. The New York Times touts the establishment of the park as "A Central Park for the World". We read adventures, tragedies, comedies, essays, memoirs and tall tales from scores of other authors, journalists, and diarists

famous (Emerson, Ethan Allen, the historian Francis Parkman, and more) and obscure, including the hilarious minor classic "How I Killed A Bear" by Charles Dudley Warner. Early and modern conservationists and ecologists such as Bob Marshall, Ann LaBastille, and Bill McKibben are here. Beyond the written accounts, full-color plates in the book's midsection display samples of the art created in the Adirondacks by seminal American artists such as Winslow Homer and the members of the influential Hudson River School plus those of living artists who have made their homes and careers there. Both books together will give the visitor a deep appreciation for the history and lore of the Adirondacks, and the struggles there to keep as much of the Adirondacks wild—one of the first great conservation struggles in American history.

*\* John Brown's farm and burial site is a New York state historic site just off State Road 73 (Sentinel Road) as you drive to the Loj in the shadow of the Olympic ski jumps. It is well worth a visit. Look for the sign.*

The Adirondacks: A History of America's First Wilderness.  
Paul Schneider Henry Holt and Co., 1996

The Adirondack Reader: Four Centuries of Adirondack Writing, Third Edition. Paul Jamieson, Ed., with Neil Burdick.  
Adirondack Mountain Club, 2009

The Adirondack Reader is available from the Adirondack Mountain Club. <http://www.adk.org/category.php> Buying from ADK helps to support their trail maintenance, conservation, and advocacy efforts. The Adirondacks: A History is available from booksellers.



# Sign up now! Land Navigation Class

## Class Dates:

Thursday, April 28, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Thursday, May 5, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

\*Tuesday\*, May 10, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Berkley Community Center, 2400 Robina Ave, Berkley, MI -  
AND -

Saturday, May 14 (9 AM - 6 PM) - Sunday, May 15 (9 AM - 3 PM)

Burns Cabins, Waterloo State Recreation Area, Chelsea, MI

Basic Land Navigation provides a thorough introduction to map & compass navigation. You will learn:

- Map reading
- Terrain visualization
- How compasses work & how to use them
- Taking & plotting compass bearings
- Finding your location using triangulation
- The "back-sight" method
- Direction & how to account for it in order to navigate accurately
- Navigation strategies
- Route planning basics



The best thing about this class: **the instructors**. You will get individual attention from an outstanding team of 4-6 experienced instructors. They can do more than navigate, these people can **teach**. Class size is limited to 16 in order to ensure a maximum student:instructor ratio of 4:1.

The other best thing about this class: **practice, practice and more practice**. To help students master and retain the material, we spread the class out over several days and build in extensive and varied practice exercises, both in the classroom and in the field. Highlights include a 1.5-hour hike focusing on topographic map/terrain recognition skills and a 3-hour team orienteering-type exercise.

**Cost:** \$50 for SOLAR members, \$55 for non-

members (non-members cannot sign up on Meetup – see below). This pays for a book, classroom rental, overnight lodging at the practical, maps and handouts. It does not include your state parks motor vehicle permit or meals.

**Prerequisites:** None, other than decent physical condition. In this class you will gain hands-on experience navigating in a wilderness environment culminating with a ~3 hour cross-country route finding exercise; consider your physical condition before signing up.

Due to the cumulative nature of the material covered, "excused absences" are possible.

Sign up on Meetup or by contacting Ati Tislerics, email (preferred): [ati.tislerics@gmail.com](mailto:ati.tislerics@gmail.com), 313-794-0164.

Note: GPS navigation is NOT covered in this class. This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Land Navigation class, which includes GPS.



# North Country Trail Hikes with Mike Hobig

*Mike Hobig is leading a series of North Country Trail Hikes throughout the summer and early fall, with the intent of attempting to hike 100 miles this season. Here is an excerpt from one of those hikes.*

We got out on the trail, Rob, Mike, Joe and Lacy (a four legged friend). The weather was inclement esp. on the drive in, we had slush and snow and rain for Friday night but a nice motel to stay in. Joe and Lacy drove up for Saturday morning, arriving well before trail departure time of 9 am. We ended up hiking a bit further to go to a campsite we heard about on the trail, having talked to a meetup group of hikers out of Grand Rapids, we had talked to some of them at the Quiet Water Symposium just a few weeks ago.

We found that with an extra vehicle or two we could have staged many options for lengths of hike. Also that a later start time or longer breaks would have still giving us ample camp time. With warmer trails, I think that will be more important.

This trip was challenging and as a first hike of the season for me it worked well, I had lots of notes on how to change packing items and gear. As the summer grows, there should be more mellow days and I think the arch of time seeing the plants and forest change is going to be a high point of these trips for me.

Next North Country Trail hike was April 16 & 17. Started off High Bank Lake Nat. Forest campsite south to Pierce Road (20.3 to 23.8 miles).

Mike Hobig



Future  
North Country Trail  
hiking weekends:  
May 7-8, 21-22  
June 4-8, 25-26  
July 9-10, 23-24  
[mhobig@ford.com](mailto:mhobig@ford.com)



# Sign up now! Pictured Rocks Backpacking Trip

## **PICTURED ROCKS NATIONAL LAKESHORE BACKPACK TRIP**

**June 20 – 24, 2016**

Backpack the entire length of Pictured Rocks, 42.4 miles.

The hiking plan is:

- Hike from Grand Sable to Au Sable - 7.1 miles
- Au Sable to Trappers Lake – 10.9 miles (plus another mile to camp)
- Trappers Lake to Chapel – 8.0 miles (plus a mile to get to the trail)
- Chapel to Cliffs – 11.3 miles
- Cliffs to Munising Falls 5.1 miles

After getting off the trail, the plan is to take an afternoon glass bottom boat tour (optional).

We cannot obtain group campsite permits, so if you are interested you will need to book your own permit. Cost for the permit is \$15 plus \$5 per person per night for camping. The permit allows up to 6 people and 2 tents per site. We can work out the rest of the details once we have the participants in place.

Call or email me ASAP if you are interested. The permits will go fast.

Leslie Cordova (248) 421-2080 or [lesliegene@aol.com](mailto:lesliegene@aol.com)





# Sign up now! Caesar Creek State Park

## **CAESAR CREEK STATE PARK LITTLE MIAMI STATE PARK AND RIVER JULY 1 – 4, 2016**

Come join us as we celebrate the July 4th holiday. This kid and dog-friendly outing is close to home, only about a 4 hour drive, basically just south of Dayton, Ohio.

Caesar Creek State Park is highlighted by clear blue waters, scattered woodlands, meadows and steep ravines. The park offers some of the finest outdoor recreation in Southwest Ohio including boating, hiking, camping and fishing. There are 43 miles of hiking trails, 8.5 miles of mountain biking trails, a lake with a 1,300 foot beach and fossil hunting. Nearby is the Little Miami paved bike trail system with over 150 miles of trails. There is also a bike rental, ice cream store and winery nearby. We are going to canoe or kayak the Little Miami River on Monday and have a traditional potluck dinner on Saturday night.

We will be camping at the Wellman Group Camp within the park. We will have the entire camp to ourselves. There are flush toilets, a picnic shelter and showers nearby (8 miles) at the main campground. Also, a huge lawn so we can play croquet or bocce ball. Weather permitting there will be a nightly campfire.

Cost is: camp & canoe \$50, camp & kayak \$60, camp only \$25

If you are interested contact Leslie Cordova at (248) 421-2080 or email [lesliegene@aol.com](mailto:lesliegene@aol.com).



# Heavner's Moonlight Paddle Upcoming Schedule

## Heavner's Canoe Rental Moonlight Paddles

- Note: This event is sponsored by Heavner's not by our club and is posted as informational and to ensure that the group can meet up together if attending.
- This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. Come to Proud Lake and paddle either a canoe or a kayak into the setting sun. Walk into Milford for dinner or dessert before returning to the canoe rental, where a bonfire will be awaiting you.
- Paddlers also have the option of bringing their own dinner, desserts or snacks and picnic right in the park itself. Specific dining location(s) will be discussed prior to boat launch. No partner necessary, all skill levels welcome. Dinner NOT included in the price.
- Recommendation is to call and reserve (possibly pay) prior to the event especially if you want a kayak.
- **MOONLIGHT PADDLE – GREAT FOR SOCIAL GROUPS**  
New This Year: come paddle Friday or Saturday night!  
Reservations: [www.heavnercanoe.com](http://www.heavnercanoe.com)  
2775 Garden Rd, Milford, MI ,  
Rental Cost: Canoe \$40 or solo Kayak \$30 includes bonfire, return shuttle.  
Private Launch: bring your own boat \$15 per person includes bonfire, return shuttle

### Dates:

Full Pink Moon: Friday, April 22 & Saturday, April 23  
Full Flower Moon: Friday, May 20 & Saturday, May 21  
Full Strawberry Moon: Friday, June 17 & Saturday, June 18  
Full Buck Moon: Friday, July 15 & Saturday, July 16  
Full Sturgeon Moon: Friday, August 19 & Saturday, August 20  
Full Harvest Moon: Friday, September 16 & Saturday, September 17  
Full Hunter's Moon: Saturday, October 15  
Full Beaver Moon: Saturday, November 12  
Full Cold Moon: Saturday, December 10  
What To Bring: Game Face, Courage and a Smile... and of course water, headlamps and dress for the weather. Custom Moonlight Paddles can be arranged for any group outside the dates above. Moonlight varies depending on weather, but it is always a great time!  
For more information call:  
Heavner Canoe Rental: 248-685-2379





# SOLAR MARCH PHOTOS





# SOLAR CALENDAR [www.solaroutdoors.org](http://www.solaroutdoors.org)

ACTIVITIES					
May 7-8, 21-22, June 4-5, 25-26, July 9-10, 23-24	Sat-Sun	North Country Trail Hikes	TBD	Mike <u>Hobig</u>	<a href="mailto:mhobig@ford.com">mhobig@ford.com</a>
May 12	Thurs	Middle Eastern Dinner	Al <u>Shalla</u> Restaurant, Dearborn Heights	Bob Westbrook	<a href="mailto:bobw@wwnet.com">bobw@wwnet.com</a>
May 21-22	Sat-Sun	NCT Hike on the Battle Creek Linear Parkway	Fort Custer Recreation Area, Battle Creek	Jim <u>Kadlubowski</u>	<a href="mailto:j.kadlubowski@att.net">j.kadlubowski@att.net</a>
May 27-30	Fri-Mon	South Manitou Island Backpack	South Manitou Island, MI	Leslie Cordova	<a href="mailto:lesliegene@aol.com">lesliegene@aol.com</a>
June 10-12	Fri-Sun	40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campout Weekend	Proud Lake State Park, Wixom, MI	Karen <u>Haroutunian</u>	<a href="mailto:solarhistorian@solaroutdoors.org">solarhistorian@solaroutdoors.org</a>
June 10	Fri	High Ropes Course Adventure	Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center	Kim Bartell	<a href="mailto:solaractivities@solaroutdoors.org">solaractivities@solaroutdoors.org</a>
Jun 20-24	Mon-Fri	Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Backpack Trip	Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	Leslie Cordova	<a href="mailto:lesliegene@aol.com">lesliegene@aol.com</a>
July 1-4	Fri-Mon	Caesar Creek State Park Camping Weekend	Waynesville, OH	Leslie Cordova	<a href="mailto:lesliegene@aol.com">lesliegene@aol.com</a>
July 16	Sat	Paddle to the Symphony	Kensington <u>Metropark</u>	Michael Dwyer	<a href="mailto:travelandadventure@yahoo.com">travelandadventure@yahoo.com</a>
Sep 9-16	Fri-Fri	A Week in the Porkies (full)	Porcupine Mountains, Upper Peninsula	Carol Rogers	<a href="mailto:cjrjune30@yahoo.com">cjrjune30@yahoo.com</a>
Sep 25-30	Sun-Fri	Adirondacks Fall 2016 Trip	Lake Placid, NY	Bruce Coppola	<a href="mailto:bcoppola@comcast.net">bcoppola@comcast.net</a>
Apr 22, 23, May 20, 21, June 17, 18, July 15, 16, Aug 19, 20, etc.	Fri/Sat – reference meetup	<u>Heavner's</u> Moonlight Paddle	Wixom, MI	Al <u>Heavner</u>	<a href="http://heavnercanoe.com">http://heavnercanoe.com</a>
CLASSES					
Apr 28, May 5, May 10, May 14-15	<u>Thur</u> , <u>Thur</u> <u>Tues</u> , <u>Wknd</u>	Basic Land Navigation	Berkley Community Center, Berkley, MI and Burns Cabins, Waterloo Recreation Area	Ati <u>Tislerics</u>	<a href="mailto:ati.tislerics@gmail.com">ati.tislerics@gmail.com</a>
May 13-14	Fri-Sat	Wilderness First Aid	Metamora, MI	Ilene Smith	<a href="mailto:solareducation@solaroutdoors.org">solareducation@solaroutdoors.org</a>

**SOLAR holds monthly meetings on the LAST Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.**  
**St. Paul's Presbyterian Church • 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154**